FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

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INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Foreign Ministers Meet in Cartagena 25-26 Feb A 1
Speeches Reported A 1
Honduras' Paz Barnica A 1
Mexico's Sepulveda Amor A 2
Argentina's Aguirre Lanari A 3
Colombia's President Betancur A 5
Jamaica's Gallimore A 6
Final Document Summarized A 7
Ecuador Proposes Denouncing U.S. on Canal Tolls A 8

ARGENTINA

Junta Sets Election, Power Transfer Dates B 1
Air Force Official on Falklands Flyovers B 1
Soviet Trade Delegation Continues Visit B 1
Lennon Replaces Aguirre as Foreign Minister B 2
Central Bank Reports $38 Billion Foreign Debt B 2
Wehbe Finalizes Refinance of Bolivian Debt B 2
Vatican Seeks 'Assurances' in Beagle Mediation B 2
Change in Naval Air Commander Announced B 4
Navy 'Likely To Commission' 4 New Submarines B 4

BOLIVIA

CPSU Delegation Ends Visit 23 February C 1
[EL DIARIO 23 Feb]
Representative to New Delhi Elected C 1
Chamber of Deputies Censures Minister Barrientos C 1
Prepared To Resign C 1
MITKA Urges Replacement C 2
Police To Help Eradicate Foodstuff Speculation C 2

BRAZIL

Netto, Calveas Sign $9 Billion Loan Agreement D 1
Economic Estimates Updated D 1
[JORNAL DO BRASIL 25 Feb]
CIP Announces Price Controls on 200 Products D 2
Da Silva Demands Economic Ministers Resign D 2
[JORNAL DO BRASIL 24 Feb]
Brazil To Deliver Landing Craft to Paraguay D 2
[FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 20 Feb]

CHILE

Caceres Says No New Economic Measures Viewed E 1
Four Unions Stripped of Legal Status for Violations E 1

COLOMBIA

Betancur Accepts Court Decree, Turns to Congress F 1

ECUADOR

Hurtado Asks Reagan To Lower Canal Tolls G 1
Valencia Travels to Cartagena Meeting 24 Feb G 1
CEPE Oil Sales on Spot Market Reported G 1
Restrictions Placed on Venezuelan Imports G 1

PERU

Belaunde Sees Successes in Economic Efforts J 1
Foreign Minister Rodriguez Discusses New Loans J 1

URUGUAY

Bank Official on Refinancing Short-Term Debt K 1
Minister Expresses Concern Over Terrorist Groups K 1

VENEZUELA

New Exchange Rate Announced for Bolivar L 1
Herrera Campins Visits Netherlands Antilles L 1

MEXICO

Oil Price Policy, International Meetings Reported M 1
Pemex Postpones Announcement M 1
Reduced Oil Price 'Hinted' M 1
Talks With Venezuela's Calderon M 1
Editorial on U.S. Senator's 'Dire' Predictions M 2
[UNOMASUNO 21 Feb]
Canada Stresses Oil Technology in Trade Talks M 3
Country To Sign $5 Billion Credit on Monday M 3
Briefs: Ambassador Appointments; Envoy to Argentina Sworn In; M 3
Ambassador to GDR

PANAMA

Marchers Protest Diplomat's Rumored Visit N 1
[LA REPUBLICA 25 Feb]
Illueca Criticized for Trip to Argentina N 1
[LA PRENSA 24 Feb]
Opposition Meeting With Kirkpatrick Discussed N 1
[LA PRENSA 24 Feb]
PDC Calls for Creation of Opposition Front N 2
[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 25 Feb]

CENTRAL AMERICA

EL SALVADOR

Army Cites FMLN-FDR Plan To Deceive Public P 1
[LA PRENSA GRAFICA 24 Feb]
Civilians Help Army Repel Extremists in Tejutla P 1
[LA PRENSA GRAFICA 24 Feb]
President, Defense Minister Visit Suchitoto P 2
[EL DIARIO DE HOY 25 Feb]

Paper Says Guerrillas Control Northern Highway P 2
[EL MUNDO 24 Feb]
Defense Minister Admits Guerrilla 'Initiative' P 3
Army Recovers Tejutla, Sets Up Security Cordon P 3
[EL MUNDO 25 Feb]
Rebels Occupy Area North of Torola River [EL MUNDO 25 Feb] P 3
Rebel Documents on Suchitoto Occupation Seized [EL MUNDO 25 Feb] P 4
Havana Cites Guerrilla Control of 15 Towns P 4
Further Havana Report P 4
Radio Venceremos Reports on FMLN Activities P 5
Cites Government Warning to Press P 5
Central Front Communique P 5

GUATEMALA

'State of Alarm' To Replace 'Siege' 27 Feb P 5
More on Siege Regulations P 6
Guerrillas To Observe Truce During Pope's Visit P 6
Government Denies Violation of Mexican Airspace P 6
[EL GRAFICO 24 Feb]
Foreign Minister Travels to United States P 7
Havana Interviews ORPA Member on U.S. Aid P 7

HONDURAS

'Free Nicaragua' Station Begins Transmission P 8
Nicaraguan Response to Invitation Criticized P 9
Commentary on General Alvarez' Press Conference P 10

NICARAGUA

Foreign Ministry Responds to Honduran Invitation [Havana] P 11
Call for Regional Meeting Seen as 'Positive' P 11
Defense Minister on Need To Strengthen Military [Havana] P 11
Comments on Militia P 12
Militia Anniversary Speech P 13
Daniel Ortega Speaks at Militia Anniversary P 14
Defense Ministry Reports Clashes, Casualties P 15
Havana on Ortega's Expectations of Pope's Visit P 16
BARRICADA: U.S. Congress Has "Legalized' War [19 Feb] P 16
Tirado Lopez on Role of Marxism in FSLN Strategy P 17
Finnish Parliamentary Delegation Ends Visit P 18
[EL NUEVO DIARIO 21 Feb]

CUBA

Miret Asks Countrymen To Make Greater Efforts Q 1
Vice Foreign Minister Viera Linares Interview Q 2
Part One Q 2
Part Two Q 4
New Version of Radio Marti Package Reported Q 5
Raul Roa Criticizes U.S. Policy Against Libya Q 5
Party Official in Paris for Meeting on Korea Q 6
U.S. Blamed for Tensions Q 6

Havana Says U.S. Aids Nazi War Criminals Q 6
Peace Movement Issues Statement on Suriname Q 7
Cabrizas Arrives in Colombia for UNCTAD Meeting Q 8
Lezcano Meets With Spain's Cortes Leaders Q 8
Fernandez Mell Receives La Coruna Mayor Q 8
Reportage on Visit by Seychelles' Hodoul Q 8
'Important' Protocol Signed Q 8
Malmierca Meets Hodoul Q 9
Hodoul Activities Reported Q 9
FAR, Soviets Open Military Sciences Conference Q 9
AALAPSO Secretary General Visits Vietnam Q 9
GDR's Mueller Leads Delegation to Havana Q 10
Dominican Legislators Arrive on Visit 25 Feb Q 10
Received by Flavio Bravo Q 10

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Socialist International Committee Meeting Opens R 1
Pena Gomez Address R 1
Pena Gomez Remarks to Press [Havana] R 1
Meeting Ends R 1
Foreign Minister Leaves for Nonaligned Meeting R 2

SURINAME

Bouterse Addresses Revolution Anniversary Rally U 1
'Antimercenary Committees' Announced U 2
[Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD 16 Feb]
Jurists Commission Probes December Deaths U 3

FOREIGN MINISTERS MEET IN CARTAGENA 25-26 FEB

Speeches Reported

PA251357 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0141 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Cartagena, Colombia, 24 Feb (EFE) -- Panamanian Foreign Minister Juan Jose Amado confirmed today that a "summit" ["cumbre"] of American foreign ministers will be held in Cartagena in June.

Amado, who met today with Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano, Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda and Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda, added that a meeting of presidents will be held in Venezuela on occasion of the bicentennial of Simon Bolivar's birth.

Amado disclosed that his meeting with the ministers was for the purpose of assessing the latest events in Central America and the Caribbean.

The same officials held talks in January on the Panamanian island of Contadora and announced their desire to help find solutions to the region's situation.

The Panamanian minister returned today to Panama, from where he will follow the deliberations of the preparatory meeting for the sixth UNCTAD conference.

There will also be a 20-27 March meeting in Cartagena of Caribbean foreign ministers who signed the new Law of the Sea, for an examination of its applications.

Honduras' Paz Barnica

PA271942 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1541 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Cartagena de Indias (Colombia), 26 Feb (EFE) -- Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica declared today in this city that peace and development must be the moral bases of all work regarding the internal and international orders.

Speaking before foreign affairs and economy ministers of Latin America, the secretary said that the unity of the area is an essential factor for advancement.

"Our goal and our concern is a world shared by all, a series of interdependent nations striving for justice and progress, a world of cooperation and not confrontation, open to tomorrow, participating in the new era, envisioning a new dawn," he stated.

Paz Barnica said that the world to which we aspire cannot become a reality until decisions are made to put an end to the imbalances in the world economy.

"The Latin American countries," he added, "must lend their active solidarity in search of the common objective of peace and development."

Therefore, according to the minister, it is indispensable that as exporters of basic products and importers of manufactured products "we jointly defend the prices of our exports and seek mechanisms to compensate for the drop in sales, regulating supplies in critical situations."

Paz Barnica declared that past experience and the outlook for the future indicate that we can no longer accept being a supplier of basic products and a recipient of manufactured products.

The minister also asked that trade relations among the countries of Latin America be strengthened, stimulating efforts toward integration of the economies within a concept of a regional, balanced and equitable cooperation that will open new development possibilities.

Regarding the international economic crisis and Latin America's foreign debt, the foreign secretary stated that joint efforts must be made before the industrialized nations to achieve a sustained and dynamic flow of resources to finance development.

Mexico's Sepulveda Amor

PA262113 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0154 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, 25 Feb (EFE) -- Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor today said that the international economic crisis demands immediate, united and effective action.

Addressing a meeting of Latin American foreign and economy ministers, Sepulveda said that in 1982 the trend toward individual and overall economic decline in the region was "dramatically accentuated."

The foreign secretary noted that the area's gross national product declined by almost 1 percent and that the deficit in the foreign sector reached unprecedented heights, having climbed to $14 billion. He added that the decline in terms of trade worsened, averaging 7 percent.

"Today, the prospects are devastating. The inequities are manifested in economic imbalances with serious social consequences. Actually, it is a general crisis in the international system," Sepulveda said.

Sepulveda reaffirmed that UNCTAD constitutes a new opportunity to reach solutions to the profound international economic crisis and said that "specific, imaginative and consistent" actions that "result from united determination to respond to the immediate difficulties without losing sight of the future" are necessary.

"Because of its experience," he said, "Latin America could play a prominent role in designing a viable program of international cooperation. In this regard, Cartagena constitutes the first stimulus for all the developing countries to make a number of contributions to establish a common negotiating position that is realistic, solid and constructive."

He said that isolated measures to confront interlinked problems are necessarily insufficient, because energy, monetary, financial and commerical questions are inevitably linked and there is no overall strategy for responding to that interdependency.

He predicted that the lack of coordination and of political determination would only deepen the imbalances and spread the uncertainty.

"Latin America will respond with determination and dignity to its common problems. The Malvinas issue, which is still unresolved, is a recent chapter in the effort for cohesion and solidarity," Sepulveda said.

On another subject, Sepulveda announced that "we reiterate the need to halt the increase in conventional arsenals in our region, arms which, instead of providing greater security, just divert resources that are needed for development, the only investment that is consistent with the attainment of peace."

Argentina's Aguirre Lanari

PY261925 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2020 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Cartagena, 25 Feb (TELAM) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Juan Aguirre Lanari affirmed that we should be on guard against some ideas which come from the North, and that no country or group of countries no matter how powerful will henceforth attempt with impunity to humiliate the dignity of any nation of Latin America.

Presenting the Argentine position to the Latin American meeting prior to the meeting of the 77 which will convene in Cartagena beginning on 28 March, Minister Aguirre Lanari said, referring to the ideas coming from the North, that far from offering equitable solutions to our problems, they introduce a delicate factor into the region.

That factor, he specified, is an attempt to reclassify or divide the developing world, forcing artificial differences into a common denominator of poverty and dependency.

He also said that the impertinent suggestions of those who by means of humiliating economic coercion have tried to convince us that the South depends on the North, that our rights are no more than concessions made by the strong, that our sovereign decisions are inexorably subject to the acquiescence of the powerful have permitted us to gain experiences and draw conclusions which cannot be forgotten.

Minister Aguirre Lanari stated that it will be a revitalizing exercise to examine in depth the perspectives from which the North-South dialogue should be conducted, adding that the situation is today different from that in which propositions were made at the end of World War II. The situation today is one of severe illiquidity, swelling unemployment rates, slippage in relative prices of products which are uniquely important for the international economy, monetary disarray, fiscal irresponsibility, and recession.

As for the new phenomenom of the 1970's which made the situation of the South even more difficult as far as indebtedness is concerned, Aguirre Lanari said that it is in the interest of everyone to overcome the acute problem of foreign indebtedness with a measure of integrity and renewed imagination.

Aguirre Lanari presented two options: the treatment of the problem in strictly financial terms, or the treatment of the problem as it impinges on the development of the international economy and trade. Regarding the first option, he said that thought should be given to the need for a long-term concerted action in a sufficiently flexible framework to permit developing countries to meet obligations without dispair, to negotiate sensible interest rates and to work out refinancing plans which do not put a drastic brake on their economic growth.

In that regard, Aguirre Lanari noted that few today are in favor of a thorough review of the monetary and financial schemes which were drawn up during the postwar period. He then said that undoubtedly the balance-of-payments crisis is nowdays a characteristic of the very structure of the international economy, not just a circumstancial phenomenom as international monetary authorities have considered it up until now.

Regarding the second option, Aguirre Lanari said that those trade partners who are also our financial creditors should be reminded that only an immediate structural readjustment permitting an expanded demand and better prices for our products will make the genuine resources available to meet our commitments without stifling our import needs and without crimping our development programs.

Aguierre Lanari warned about the danger of the present stalemate, which is closely related to international peace and security, and pointed to the need to nourish a feeling of interdependence which, he said, we hope industrialized countries will understand, in the awareness of the fact -- which is practically a principle -- that no isolated country will be able to overcome the crisis by itself without the cooperation of the others.

"I do not see the Belgrade meeting," he went on, "as a long and diversified list of petitions, demands and requests, but as a broad dialogue in which the South may submit concrete proposals and where imagination and realism may be properly appraised. For this purpose, we should be able to avoid those old proposals which have already become obsolete as a result of changes in the internationalist economy."

He then listed the facts that nobody can pretend to ignore; among others, the need to raise the real income of the developing world and to create adequate financing mechanisms which could put our exports at the same competitive level -- not at a lower level -- as developing countries' exports. Lanari explained that these facts are reasonable and wise and that even though they cannot be questioned, they have confronted rigid schemes that have not only delayed our development exceedingly, but have also driven the international community to a dangerous stalemate.

Aguierre Lanari maintained that powers lack the political will to faithfully comply with the commitments they have assumed. He remarked that if powers cannot undertake commercial cooperation actions they have agreed upon -- because of their rigid internal arrangements -- one may wonder whether such a situation would not worsen when the establishment of more fluid commerical relations with developing nations is at stake.

Aguirre Lanari urged that Latin American conference to strengthen South-South cooperation, although he admitted that subtle interpretations of an institutional and legal nature have to a great extend delayed the start of the operation of the UN cooperation mechanisms.

"We shall meet our international obligations," he claimed, "but for that purpose it is reasonable and even ethical to admit that we need resources. We are not interested aid. We want a just compensation for our people's efforts."

He said he was carrying a message of hope and added that "the harder the undertaking, the deeper my confidence in the perseverance and responsibility of the Latin American fatherland. Let no one mistake our attitude. Our maturity and seriousness, our patience and common sense must not give rise to the mistaken expectation that we will indefinitely continue building, with our efforts, the wealth of those who have more."

He advocated the search for mechanisms that could speed up procedures so that cooperation within the developing world can turn into a reality. He noted that the ideas that the region can give in areas such as food policies and collective economic security, both at regional and subregional level, will gain considerable significance in the light of the meeting of the 77 that will be held here, "when we will agree on options and criteria with our brothers of other geographies of hope."

In conclusion, he conveyed Argentina's acknowledgement for the Latin American regional solidarity on the occasion of the South Atlantic conflict when a group of industrialized countries arrogated to themselves, illegally and arbitrarily, the right to impose coercive economic measures on us with a clearly political objective, in disregard of existing international commitments, submitting us to an aggression that Latin America condemned.

Colombia's President Betancur

PA262011 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Report on speech by Colombian President Belisario Betancur at the UNCTAD foreign ministers meeting in Cartagena, Colombia; no date given -- read by announcer]

[Excerpts] President Belisario Betancur made important statements at the sixth UNCTAD coordination meeting in Cartagena. We will report the following excerpts from his speech there:

President Betancur said: The world has not yet achieved a new international economic order or harmonious and equitable development to guarantee a dignified life for our peoples. The small group of nations that comprises the most developed countries must realize that it has become the victim of its own strategy, just like Saturn, who devoured his sons, or like revolutions that swallow their leaders.

This group has structured a commercial system that is suffocating the underdeveloped countries and making the abyss between the two broader and deeper.

Our basic products, the keystone of most of our economies, are going through a greatly depressed phase. The rich countries have a great capacity to react in the face of increases in the price of staples. The United States recently restrained imports, to the detriment of the nations represented at this meeting. The region has entered an arms race that takes away resources necessary for its development. Developed countries call themselves friends of one side or the other, promoting a psychosis and selling their arms here and there, trafficking in death. We must make efforts in Geneva to secure a true desire for peace and understanding.

The president also said: The time has come for the governments represented here to express the feelings of their people, to say a loud no to the merchants of death who want our America to be a site of war and a marketplace for their cannons, bombs, planes and destroyers.

He added: We must decide that arms must be replaced by rights and justice. This was Colombia's main objective in requesting membership in the Nonaligned Movement -- to play an important role in defense of world peace and not to wait for others to get us mixed up in their adventures. A position independent from power centers will give us moral strength.

There must be a recovery of credibility and initiatives to reorder the world's economy. This is an opportunity for attacking the effects of the crisis while acting with solidarity and political awareness.

A North-South dialogue must be reestablished, and it must begin with a revision of the international monetary system. The proposal is that through this and other forums we break the vicious circle in which we have lived for the past 25 years. There should be a great pact that reflects the united will of these governments. Its starting point should be the ultimate relationship that exists between trade and the foreign debt crisis.

It is necessary to give breathing room to the economies by freeing markets in line with UNCTAD and GATT proposals. The developed countries must strengthen the purchasing capacity of the developing countries by truly expanding their imports. It is necessary to establish mechanisms that will guarantee equitable prices for staples, tax exemptions and the voiding of restrictions on tropical products. There should be an expansion of the general preference system for products important for the expansion of our commerce.

Once this objective is achieved, the affected countries will be able to equalize their balance of payments and generate the reserves necessary for their development. Their import capacity will increase and the world's economy will be reactivated. It is urgently necessary to restructure the international financial system.

The first step should be to give greater importance to public or multilateral credit resources. We must especially insist on a renewed strengthening of IMF resources, and the IMF should restate the conditions for its financial assistance.

The IMF, the president said, demands that its creditors apply measures that lead not only to austerity and discipline, but also to contractions and therefore to an inflationary process through devaluations.

The IMF restatement must consider both medium- and long-term loans. The main objective should be sustained growth that will allow a country to break the vicious circle of recession. The influence of the Nonaligned Movement and the Group of 77 is a fact, and this influence must be increased. The basis for this is solidarity, and my country will not hesitate in committing itself to that.

President Betancur was very pleased to announce Colombia's decision to join the Staples Common Front [Frente Comun de Productos Basicos]. He also said that we must be alert to prevent protectionism from taking a foothold among us.

The president also said that a small group of countries, the 18 most advanced countries, must realize that it has become the victim of its own strategy. The president said that the advance of the rich countries has taken place partly at the expense of our advance.

For example there are the policies applied to agricultural products such as sugar. Sugar is strongly subsidized in the European Community, and the United States restrains the import of sugar to the detriment of nations represented here.

In addition to this, the president said, they have created obstacles to the entrance of third world manufactured products, and they explain these obstacles with trivial arguments. Presumably, any labor-intensive product puts in danger the national industry and the employment level of the powerful industrialized countries. All sorts of barriers have been erected to restrain our exports, President Betancur said.

Finally, the president said that it is up to us to become the driving force behind our recovery. This first has to become a mental and political disposition and then an economic awareness. Let's instill this attitude in our other Third World brothers, in the face of these difficult times, and let's turn this Cartagena meeting into a hope, the Buenos Aires meeting into resolutions and the Belgrade meeting into the keystone of a prosperous, peaceful and just future for mankind, President Betancur said.

Jamaica's Gallimore

FL261220 Bridgetown CANA in English 1134 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Cartagena, Colombia, Feb 26, CANA-REUTER -- Jamaica's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Neville Gallimore said here yesterday cooperation among developing countries had to be increased to achieve economic recovery.

Mr Gallimore also told a two-day meeting of Latin American foreign ministers the region could not seek greater integration in the international economic system while fearing to promote mutually beneficial exchanges among ourselves.

The meeting, called by the Latin American Economic System (SELA), will set the groundwork for the regional economic position at the sixth United Nations Conference for Trade and Development (UNCTAD), in Belgrade in June.

Mr Gallimore urged the Latin American ministers to commit themselves on the need for a coherent and interrelated set of measures for the reactivation of development, sustained economic recovery and longer term structural changes in the global economic system.

He added that statement had to signify our intention and conviction to work cooperatively...in the search for mutual beneficial solutions.

Final Document Summarized

PA271514 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1912 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Cartagena, Colombia, 26 Feb (EFE) -- The governments of the region have referred to the effects of the world economic crisis on the developing countries, especially on Latin America, as one of the most serious sources of concern.

A final declaration issued by foreign and economic ministers who met in this city for the preparatory meeting of the sixth UNCTAD conference states that the crisis does not result from a lack of intrinsic vitality in the economies of the developing nations. The 12-point document, about which EFE has known since Friday, is part of a final report on the preparatory phase of the consultation meeting promoted by SELA.

The document states that specific, agreed measures prepared with the participation of the developing countries and in line with the true situations of those countries are necessary to solve the current crisis.

The document states that the crisis affecting all the nations has its roots in the current international economic structure and in the policies of the developed countries.

The decrease in international commerce, the drop in the prices of basic products and the resulting worsening of the terms of trade, among other things, seriously jeopardize development and well-being.

The document states that the developing countries are not responsible for the crisis, and that in addition to inequities and injustices the problem is also manifested in the form of an accelerated erosion of the principles, rules and institutions that have served as the framework for international economic relations.

This regional situation has made evident the need for a revision and updating -- or strengthening, as applicable -- of these relations.

The ministries' document states: "This situation is growing worse because of the growing protectionism of the developed countries, and also because of the application of unilateral decisions that affect commerce and world financial relations."

Furthermore, the instability and "arbitrariness" of international relations is becoming more serious with the application of restrictive and discriminatory economic measures of a political nature that make the situation of developing countries more difficult.

The ministers said that the crisis cannot be solved by adopting isolated unilateral measures, but that instead the international community must agree on a group of interrelated actions, aimed at the rapid reactivation of the world economy.

The ministers reiterated their firm determination to participate actively in the search for solutions that will make it possible to face the structural changes that the international economic system requires, and they asked UNCTAD to take actions aimed at together solving the reorganization of the economy.

The ministers also reaffirmed that economic cooperation among developing countries is a key and necessary instrument in reorganizing international economic relations, and stressed the importance of regional self-sustenance as a factor for the reactivation of the world's economy.

In this respect, the delegates pointed out the need for the ministerial meeting of the group of the "77," which will be held in Argentina, to contribute to strengthening the objectives and operational guidelines established by the developing countries.

They recognized Latin America's responsibility in the process to achieve a harmonious position on the part of the developing countries during the Buenos Aires "summit."

Finally, the ministers reaffirmed their political desire to go to the sixth UNCTAD conference in Belgrade with a constructive attitude, and the hope that the developed countries will adopt a similar stance.

ECUADOR PROPOSES DENOUNCING U.S. ON CANAL TOLLS

PA281344 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 27 Feb 83

[Text] Yesterday in Cartagena, Colombia, the Ecuadorean Government proposed to 32 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean that they should jointly denounce the United States for the announced 9.8 percent increase in Panama Canal tolls. Foreign Minister Luis Valencia Rodriguez criticized all kinds of protectionism and restrictions that burden the economies of the region and said that they work against Latin American solidarity.

Valencia made the proposal in the framework of the Latin American ministerial meeting to coordinate the sixth UNCTAD meeting to be held in Belgrade in June.

Because of its geographical location, Ecuador is perhaps the country most directly affected by the continuous increases in Panama canal tolls, Foreign Minister Valencia Rodriguez said. He noted that beginning next month there will be an increase of approximately 9.8 percent in the Panama Canal tolls, despite repeated efforts by the countries of the southwestern Pacific and Bolivia and the pronouncements by international organizations in opposition to those increases. He said that this decision will have a direct and indirect influence on Ecuador's import and export activities and consequently on its economic growth rate and the realization of its development programs.

Foreign Minister Valencia charged that the United States has not provided complete information about the operating costs of the Panama Canal.

JUNTA SETS ELECTION, POWER TRANSFER DATES

PY260221 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2230 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 25 Feb (NA) -- The military junta this afternoon established 30 October as the date for calling elections and decided that the handing over of power will take place in the second half of January, probably on Sunday, 16 January. These decisions were communicated to President Reynaldo Bignone today.

This was announced by a high military source after the working lunch held by the three commanders in chief together with General Bignone at the Olivos Residence.

The source said: "We have given the political parties everything that has been asked and even demanded of us, within our technical and material possibilities."

He stated: "Now they have their schedule with precise dates, but in the meantime the military government has the power and will exercise it until the last days."

AIR FORCE OFFICIAL ON FALKLANDS FLYOVERS

PY251543 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Feb (TELAM) -- Asked about press reports stating that Argentine planes have reportedly carried out reconnaissance flights in the Malvinas area, an Argentine Air Force spokesman said that Argentine Air Force planes are deployed so as to permanently control the air space.

The source did not deny or confirm the report carried by international news agencies which stated that Argentine Air Force planes had carried out reconnaissance missions around the Malvinas Islands.

According to a foreign news agency, the flights were carried out to test the eventual response of the British forces stationed in the archipelago. The report also noted that this was reported by British Government officials.

Moreover, this report states that none of these planes penetrated the exclusion zone established by Great Britain around the islands.

SOVIET TRADE DELEGATION CONTINUES VISIT

PY252022 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] The Argentine and Soviet trade delegations met at the Trade Secretariat today. The meetings being held by the two delegations, which are headed by Argentine Trade Secretary Alberto Fraguio and Soviet Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Boris Gordeyev, are preparatory to the meeting of the bilateral mixed commission, which will analyze the status of the trade between the two countries.

Today, Fraguio and Gordeyev held a private meeting in Fraguio's office for more than half an hour.

LENNON REPLACES AGUIRRE AS FOREIGN MINISTER

PY252015 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1230 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Feb (TELAM) -- Justice Minister Lucas Jaime Lennon will be acting foreign minister replacing Juan Aguirre Lanari.

This is what is established in a decree published in today's gazette which states that the foreign minister will travel to Cartagena, and later to New Delhi, India, where he will preside over the Argentine delegation attending the Latin American countries' coordination meeting for the fifth ministerial meeting of the Group of 77, and at the seventh summit meeting of nonaligned countries respectively.

The gazette also publishes a decree through which Enrique Florencio Lupiz has been appointed Argentine ambassador to Greece. Greece has already approved his appointment.

CENTRAL BANK REPORTS $38 BILLION FOREIGN DEBT

PY260149 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2250 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Feb (TELAM) -- The Central Bank records show that the foreign debt totalled $38,736,000,000 as of 31 December 1982, the Central Bank officially reported today.

These figures show an increase of $2,138,000,000 compared to foreign debt records as of 30 June 1982. It was also estimated that the foreign debt will amount to $39,776,000,000 by 31 December 1983.

WEHBE FINALIZES REFINANCE OF BOLIVIAN DEBT

PY252240 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Excerpts] Economy Minister Jorge Wehbe and Bolivian Defense Minister Jose Ortiz Mercado this morning signed a memorandum of understanding for the refinancing of the portion of the Bolivian debt to Argentina which has already come due.

The Bolivian debt will be refinanced over a 10-year period with an 8 percent annual interest rate and a 3-year grace period. Principal and interest will be amortized every 6 months. The grace period will not apply to interest.

It was also reported that on 7 March 1983 Argentina will make a $127.22 million payment on Bolivian gas invoices that are already due.

The memorandum signed today indicates that Bolivia has authorized Argentina to withhold 19 percent of the above amount in order to pay off overdue obligations.

VATICAN SEEKS 'ASSURANCES' IN BEAGLE MEDIATION

PY251621 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1251 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Feb (NA) -- Reliable sources have revealed that Cardinal Agostino Casaroli, Vatican secretary of state, has allegedly asked the Argentine Government for "clarifications and assurances" regarding its attitude on the mediation process in connection with the Beagle issue.

It was learned that Cardinal Casaroli reportedly revealed to Ambassador Ortiz de Rozas, who has resigned from his post as head of the Argentine delegation, that sometime ago the Vatican portfolio under his charge had considered the possibility of "suspending" the mediation together with Cardinal Antonio Samore. Cardinal Casaroli reportedly also told Ortiz de Rozas that this alternative was considered undesirable and prejudicial.

Ortiz de Rozas conveyed the request made by Casaroli, the second highest-ranking Vatican official, to President Bignone and Foreign Minister Aguirre Lanari during a Meeting held at the Olivos Residence last Tuesday.

Government sources told NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS that during the meeting Ortiz de Rozas informed the president of the talks he held with Cardinal Casaroli last Friday.

The meeting with Cardinal Casaroli was held in Rome a few hours before Ortiz de Rozas departed for Buenos Aires, where he arrived on Tuesday morning 22 February.

Casaroli reportedly stated that the Vatican was analyzing the situation brought about by the lack of an Argentine Government response to the pope's proposal, noting, however, that Pope John Paul II had not adopted any decision yet.

Ortiz de Rozas also quoted Casaroli as stating that, nevertheless, the mediation office will continue with its work under the supervision of Monsignors Montalvo and Sainz Munoz in view of the knowledge that the two pontifical representatives have of the Argentine-Chilean dispute.

Monsignors Montalvo and Sainz Munoz served as Cardinal Samore's advisers until Samore's death.

According to the sources, Casaroli reportedly conveyed to Ortiz de Rozas the pope's decision to have Casaroli himself supervise the mediation until Cardinal Samore's successor is named.

The sources quoted Ortiz de Rozas as stating to Casaroli that the Argentine Government intends to continue "actively and exhaustively" with the negotiations at the Vatican.

Ortiz de Rozas reportedly also quoted Casaroli as stating that the statements made by some Argentine authorities regarding the possibility of the mediation task being "frozen" until Argentina's constitutional government is installed had caused "uncertainty" within the Holy See.

The sources quoted Ortiz de Rozas as reporting that Casaroli had told him that his office was analyzing the possibility of "suspending" the mediation, but that "the Holy See was against it because it would be extremely prejudicial."

Casaroli reportedly added that for this reason it would be [word indistinct] for the Argentine Government to make "clarifications" and give "assurances" regarding its future attitude toward the negotiations.

The sources quoted Ortiz de Rozas as reporting to Bignone that his answer to Casaroli's request was what he has been telling the pontifical and the Chilean authorities ever since July 1982, that is, that the "Argentine Government is entitled to make consultations regarding the Vatican solution."

Ortiz de Rozas explained that these consultations would be made with the most representative institutions of the Argentine public, such as the political parties among others.

In conclusion, Ortiz de Rozas told Bignone that he had arranged another meeting with Casaroli after Ortiz de Rozas returned to the Vatican.

Ortiz de Rozas said that he was waiting for the president's instructions for his meeting with Casaroli.

The sources quoted Bignone as stating that he would inform the junta of the results of the meeting held in Rome and that he would later report the junta's decision to the foreign minister.

CHANGE IN NAVAL AIR COMMANDER ANNOUNCED

PY252025 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1240 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 25 Feb (NA) -- It has been learned that Rear Adm Benito Moya, commander of naval aviation, has requested retirement and that Rear Adm Maximo Eduardo Rivero Kelly will reportedly replace him.

It has also been learned from Navy sources that Moya's request for retirement was based on "strictly personal reasons."

The swearing-in ceremony for Rear Adm Maximo Eduardo Rivero Kelly will reportedly be held at the Comandante Espora Naval Air Base, a few kilometers from Bahia Blanca, next Tuesday.

Reliable sources said that Rivero Kelly follows Moya in seniority.

NAVY 'LIKELY TO COMMISSION' 4 NEW SUBMARINES

PY251345 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2223 GMT 24 Feb 83

[Text] Mar del Plata, 24 Feb (NA) -- The Navy is likely to commission four new submarines into its submarine fleet. Two of these units were built in the FRG and the other two in Argentina under German license. Capt Emilio Moya Latrubesse, outgoing commander of the submarine base stationed in Mar del Plata, made this announcement this morning. However, Captain Latrubesse did not specify the number of submarines to be commissioned.

Latrubesse stated in his farewell speech that modern and "advanced" submarines will be commissioned soon.

Captain Latrubesse stated that "we are already engaged in training new detachments and preparing the base and its arsenal for the new submarines."

The submarine Ciudad de Santa Fe, one of the four submarines of the Argentine Navy, was damaged [averiado] as a result of the British attack on the Georgia Islands during the Malvinas war and was later retired from service.

The other three submarines that the Argentine Navy currently has are the Santiago del Estero, Salta and San Luis. The design of the submarine Santiago del Estero was used during World War II, while the submarines Salta and San Luis have a more advanced technology.

CPSU DELEGATION ENDS VISIT 23 FEBRUARY

PY252230 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 23 Feb 83 p 3

[Text] The delegation from the Communist Party of the Soviet Union [CPSU] which has visited Bolivia at the invitation of the Bolivian Communist Party [PCB] returns home today after having visited the mining districts of Catavi and Siglo Veinte as well as the town of Copacabana.

According to reports we have received, the three CPSU members have held meetings with the PCB leaders and labor leaders. During their visit they were able to learn about the true conditions of life of the mineworkers and peasants in this country.

The Soviet visitors, who arrived in Bolivia last Wednesday, stressed in their statements that the Bolivian democratic process is viewed with great interest in the Soviet Union and emphasized the need to promote the development of fraternal relations between their country and ours and between the Bolivian and Soviet peoples.

REPRESENTATIVES TO NEW DELHI MEETING ELECTED

PY252116 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Deputy Gaston Encinas and Senator Federico Alvarez Plata have been elected by the congress to form part of the Bolivian delegation that will participate in the nonaligned conference, which will be held in New Delhi from 1 to 10 March.

During the meeting, Bolivia intends to bring up again the more than 100-year-old issue of Bolivia's landlocked situation. The meeting will also discuss the nonaligned support for Bolivia's legitimate claims.

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES CENSURES MINISTER BARRIENTOS

Prepared to Resign

PY252119 Paris AFP in Spanish 0248 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] La Paz, 24 Feb (AFP) -- The Bolivian congressmen opposing the government of Hernan Siles Zuazo today were able to get the Chamber of Deputies to approve a vote of censure against Zenon Barrientos Mamani, minister of agriculture, livestock and campesino affairs, one of the most trusted men of the chief of state.

The majority vote of the blocs of the Historic Nationalist Revolutionary Movement (MNRH) and the Nationalist Democratic Action (ADN), headed by former presidents Victor Paz Estenssoro and Hugo Banzer Suarez respectively, may cause the resignation of the censured minister.

Barrientos Mamani was harshly criticized for supporting the actions carried out by peasants in the takeover of public offices and rural development projects, an accusation Mamani has always denied.

The minister was also accused of violating the national Constitution by allegedly providing logistical support for the holding of peasant congresses which were controlled by the government.

There were 65 votes for censure and 54 votes against.

The questioning of the minister of agriculture, livestock and campesino affairs lasted more than 20 days during which long debates on the agrarian situation of the country were held.

Barrientos Mamani, union leader and deputy, lived in exile with President Siles Zuazo.

Upon learning that the majority of congressmen oppose his policies, he said: If the president requests it, I will resign.

MITKA Urges Replacement

PY262005 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Excerpt] Constantino Lima, representative of the Tupac Karari Indian Movement (MITKA), stated that he favores the replacement of the agriculture, livestock and campesino affairs minister and suggests that his successor be a genuine representative of the workers.

The MITKA leader stated that if this replacement is not carried out, this peasant-workers bloc will adopt an open opposition within congress.

POLICE TO HELP ERADICATE FOODSTUFF SPECULATION

PY260201 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Excerpts] Gen (Edi Cordero Marquez), commander of the Bolivian police, has stated that the institution under his command will cooperate with energy and without any leniency in eradicating hoarding and speculation. He stated that the task will be undertaken according to a plan which has been specifically drawn up in cooperation with the civilian authorities of the country. We cannot remain as spectators of those activities which go against the interests of the people, and we will now try to mercilessly root out this socioeconomic evil, the police commander said.

[Begin (Cordero) recording] The Bolivian police earnestly warn those people who are speculating with the hunger of the people, because the police will surely act with energy and without any considerations. All the necessary personnel are being made available to eradicate those illegal acts that are greatly harming our society. [end recording]

General (Cordero) then said that the plan for repressing hoarding and speculation in foodstuffs was put into operation today with the deployment of all police personnel throughout the territory of the nation.

NETTO, GALVEAS SIGN $9 BILLION LOAN AGREEMENT

PY260123 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Speaking at the ceremony where a $9 billion loan contract was signed by Brazil and the international bank [as heard], Planning Minister Delfim Netto said in New York today that the Brazilian Government has shown its strong determination to continue its efforts to reach a balance of trade surplus of $6 billion and to reduce the inflation rate and the fiscal deficit.

Accompanied by Finance Minister Ernane Galveas and Central Bank President Carlos Langoni, Delfim Netto addressed the representatives of the 120 international banks and gave assurances that Brazil is implementing its economic policy without hesitations, in keeping with the dramatic status of the world economy.

Under President Joao Figueiredo's leadership, Minister Netto said, Brazil will continue on the course leading to economic development and sociopolitical stability.

Economic Estimates Updated

PY262045 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 25 Feb 83 p 20

[Text] The 1983 inflation rate will be close to 90 percent, well above the 70 percent level originally estimated by the government. In turn, devaluation may surpass 130 percent (in which case the official dollar rate will be 581.4 cruzeiros). The devaluation rate would thus surpass the 91.5 percent mark that would have been reached had the government maintained the system of real minidevaluation rates which are 1 percentage point higher than the inflation rate.

These are the two main new indexes of the Brazilian economic performance for 1983 that Jose Arantes Savasini, the Planning Ministry assistant secretary general, will report to the IMF in Washington this week.

A government source close to the negotiations with the IMF, which disclosed the above information, said that, in fact, the Savasini mission (Savasini traveled with Planning Minister Delfim metto), will submit a new statistical version of the letter of intent and technical memorandum. Although the content has not changed, it was necessary to update the figures altogether after the government decreed the maxidevaluation.

There will also be changes in the estimated expansion of the money supply (money deposited in banks and in the hands of the public), the growth of the available income (the difference between government income and spending) and the balance of financial assets circulating in the economy. An inescapable consequence of the maxidevaluation, the source went on, will be a much more austere economic policy that will be aimed at reducing the fiscal deficit. While the absolute value of the deficit has changed, the source explained, the percentage by which it must drop -- in keeping with an IMF condition -- has remained unchanged.

An IMF source has confirmed that several figures of the letter of intent and of the technical memorandum were being reestimated, but he gave assurances that despite the corrected figures, the documents will remain essentially the same.

CIP ANNOUNCES PRICE CONTROLS ON 200 PRODUCTS

PY251350 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] The government decided today that manufacturing and service companies will not be able to increase the prices of their products by more than 90 percent of the correction of the ORTN [National Treasury readjustable orders].

The Inter-Ministerial Price Council [CIP] released a list of more than 200 products, divided into nine groups, which will be under control. Any increase in prices must be reported to the CIP. The CIP will then assess this increase based on the latest official list.

The list includes the following products: processed meat products, biscuits, bread, glucose, dried food products, corn starch, condensed milk and powdered milk. The following products will also be controlled: automobiles, motorcycles, agricultural and highway-building equipment, fertilizers and contruction material.

DA SILVA DEMANDS ECONOMIC MINISTERS RESIGN

PY251615 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 24 Feb 83 p 17

[Excerpt] Sao Paulo -- In an official note, which was drafted between Tuesday morning and yesterday afternoon, Luis Inacio da Silva -- Lula -- president of the Workers Party (PT), asks the president to dismiss all the ministers in the economic area. That is, "if the ministers themselves do not have the decency to perceive that their economic model is a failure," in other words, if they themselves do not hand in their resignations.

In the note, entitled: "The PT and the Maxidemoralization of the Economic Policy," which was read by Lula yesterday, the PT highlights the fact that "the representation of the worker in the current Congress is far from adequate. But, and despite this fact, the PT demands, as the first step for an effective democratization of the economic policy, that Congress be one of the forums in which the economic policy must be debated and finally decided upon."

BRAZIL TO DELIVER LANDING CRAFT TO PARAGUAY

PY240154 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 20 Feb 83 p 6

[Text] Rio de Janeiro -- Navy Minister Adm Maximiano da Fonseca will hand over to the Paraguayan Navy a troop landing craft built in Brazil by Brazilian and Paraguayan workers. The ceremony will be held at the Ladario naval base, on the Parana River, on Wednesday.

Navy Ministry sources have reported that a river patrol boat destined for Paraguay is also being built in the naval shipyards.

CACERES SAYS NO NEW ECONOMIC MEASURES VIEWED

PY251520 Paris AFP in Spanish 2338 GMT 24 Feb 83

[Text] Santiago, 24 Feb (AFP) -- The Chilean Government decided today not to implement new measures in order to confront its economic difficulties. Meanwhile, the studies continue for renegotiating part of the foreign debt with the international banking sector.

Rumors about imminent measures circulated yesterday, Wednesday, in Santiago, but Finance Minister Carlos Caceres today denied those rumors at the end of a lengthy meeting with his closest advisers.

Caceres said that we are studying various alternatives for renegotiating the foreign debt. That is the field in which we are working.

President Gen Augusto Pinochet has indicated that Chileans must maintain faith and hope in the government's actions. Highlighting his concern in wanting to create new job sources [words indistinct] that affects more than 20 percent of the current population.

The chief of state added, during a speech given at an official ceremony in the southern city of Puerto Aysen -- 2,000 km south of Santiago, that it is necessary for the community to maintain an iron-willed cohesion.

The most recent internal measures were implemented on 14 February, when Pinochet reorganized his cabinet, naming new ministers for the Finance and Economy Ministries, which, up to that time, had been in the hands of Rolf Luders, an economist and businessman.

Luders had begun talks in January with approximately 600 creditor banks located in the United States, Europe and Japan, for renegotiating payments amounting to $3 billion, which is one-sixth of the total foreign debt.

The bankers have already accepted a 90-day moratorium for paying those commitments and talks will resume in March 1983 in New York, according to official sources.

The basic purpose of the renegotiation is to lighten the effects of a recession that provoked, in addition to unemployment, a fall of 14 percent in the GDP last year as a consequence of a virtual industrial paralyzation.

FOUR UNIONS STRIPPED OF LEGAL STATUS FOR VIOLATIONS

PY252324 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] The legal status of four unions has been canceled. The resolutions have been published in the official gazette, stripping the legal status of El Jardin Agricultural Entrepreneurs Association, the Rancagua Merchants and Industrialists Association, the Port and Maritime Truck Owners Association of [names indistinct] Ports, and the Retail Merchants Association of [name indistinct]. These penalties were applied for violations of legal provisions now in force.

BETANCUR ACCEPTS COURT DECREE, TURNS TO CONGRESS

PA260249 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Bogota -- Colombian President Belisario Betancur has announced the convoking of additional Congress sessions to study the tax reform, which the Supreme Court has overturned. He said he will respectfully abide by the high tribunal's ruling, but warned that those decrees that were overturned will be submitted as bills to the legislative branch.

The Congress has expressed interest in the analysis of laws issued by the government and expressed confidence that, based on political agreements, they will be supported.

The Congress will be convoked to extraordinary sessions once the special sessions end. According to the Constitution, they are held to analyze the economic emergency. The government has issued a declaration regarding the court's ruling, in which it points out that the court changed its doctrine of 1974. The government has made the following explanation:

1. The government decreed the state of economic emergency based on article 122 of the Constitution in order to resolve the country's grave problems, including the fiscal deficit, which has been estimated at 90-100 billion pesos.

2. When adopting measures to resolve the problems, the government took into consideration every doctrine stated by the honourable Supreme Court of Justice in its 15 October 1974 ruling. According to this ruling, and under article 122, fiscal measures may be established if they are intended to resolve the crisis and prevent further effects. Based on this, decrees were issued to prevent tax evasion, strengthen department and municipal finances and regulate the cadastre, in other words, these are laws to guarantee the organization and adequate use of fiscal resources. They are intended to overcome a state of undeniable and evident economic emergency.

3. The Constitution decrees that all these measures must be sent to the Supreme Court to determine their feasibility, and the government has complied with this obligation. The court has decided that decree 3742 of 1982 complies with the law but exerted its right to change the 1974 doctrine, and has decided that decree 3743 of 1982 is unfeasible. The decree modifies the income tax and complementary tariffs. The government will abide by the new doctrine, due to its absolute respect for the Supreme Court's rulings.

4. The Supreme Court of Justice will now be in charge of ruling on the 37 remaining decrees that were issued according to article 122.

5. Once the court's review ends, there will be full knowledge of the measures that the government will propose to the honourable national Congress, always seeking to resolve the crisis. The national Congress, in all its wisdom and authority, will decide during the next special sessions which measures should become laws.

6. Aware of the circumstances that determined the declaration of a national emergency, and respecting the fact that the Supreme Court changed the 1974 doctrine, which approved the decrees issued on that occasion by the Lopez Michelsen administration and supported the economic emergency of 1982, the government will act in complete abidance with the Constitution and laws, in the awareness that the Colombians will support it to avoid problems, obtain the resources that allow us to resolve the problems of our country's large needy sectors and to carry out the great projects our progress requires.

HURTADO ASKS REAGAN TO LOWER CANAL TOLLS

PA261845 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Ecuador has asked the United States to lower the Panama Canal toll rates. President Hurtado has sent a personal letter to President Reagan to express the Ecuadorian Government's concern over the increase in the Panama Canal tolls. Hurtado asks Reagan for a revision of the newly established rates.

Orlando Alcivar, industries, commerce and integration minister, said that a mission composed of representatives of his Ministry and the Ecuadorean merchant fleets will be sent to the United States in the next few days in order to obtain a final response from the U.S. Government.

VALENCIA TRAVELS TO CARTAGENA MEETING 24 FEB

PA251249 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 24 Feb 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Luis Valencia Rodriguez went to Cartagena, Colombia yesterday to attend the second phase of the meeting of Latin American coordinators who are preparing the agenda for the next Group of 77 meeting, to be held in Buenos Aires in mid-March. The Buenos Aires meeting will prepare for the UNCTAD meeting in Belgrade.

Valencia traveled to Cartagena aboard an Ecuadorean Navy vessel. The minister was accompanied by ECLA Executive Secretary Enrique Iglesias and SELA Secretary Carlos Alzamora, who were in Ecuador for a few hours to talk with Ecuadorean President Hurtado about Ecuador's proposal that Latin American nations jointly confront economic problems in order to overcome the world economic crisis.

CEPE OIL SALES ON SPOT MARKET REPORTED

PA261705 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] The manager of the Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation [CEPE] has managed to sell 700,000 barrels of crude in two shipments in the last few days at a price of approximately $28 a barrel. The transactions were concluded on the spot market. Meanwhile, negotiations on long-term contracts have continued after having been suspended due to the instability of the world market.

RESTRICTIONS PLACED ON VENEZUELAN IMPORTS

PA261850 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Ecuador has decided to close its doors to imports from Venezuela as a protectionist measure in view of the restrictions that Venezuela has placed on the entry of Ecuadorean products. On explaining this decision, Orlando Alcivar, minister of industries, commerce and integration, said that the government has been obliged to take such measures because of the Venezuelan decision to restrict the entry of Ecuadorean products to that country. However, Venezuela will only lose some 17 or 18 million Bolivars, while the Venezuelan restriction means that Ecuador will lose some $50 million. The minister has sent a protest note to his Venezuelan counterpart in which he noted that despite the contacts between the two countries at both the private and governmental levels there have been no positive results in the form of a suspension of the Venezuelan restrictions.

BELAUNDE SEES SUCCESSES IN ECONOMIC EFFORTS

PY252248 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] President Belaunde has asserted that our country's economic situation is much better than that of other Latin American countries.

[Begin Belaunde recording] We already know that the outlook for the future has improved enormously and that the country now finds itself in a situation that is unquestionably very much better than the situation in other countries. Regarding this fact there is now no doubt. For example: There was no doubt about Venezuela's situation up to a short time ago, but we have now seen Venezuela implement exchange controls.

Therefore, there is no doubt that the measures that we have been implementing, no matter how difficult it was or how harsh they were, have been the right ones, because they have allowed Peru to keep afloat, while many other nations were in, or are in, danger of sinking economically. Our most fervent desire is that all of us together will refloat the economy. We do not want any one country more harmed than the other. [end recording]

ECONOMY MINISTER RODRIGUEZ DISCUSSES NEW LOANS

PY252257 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Let us now hear what Economy and Finance Minister Carlos Rodriguez Pastor has to say about the loans that are going to be requested from the international banking sector.

[Begin Rodriguez recording] I have already indicated that we are going to ask the private banking sector for three types of support. We are going to request that the line of short-term credits, which are currently available, be continued; a loan to cover the amortizations that Peru has to make during the course of this year; and an additional sum, new resources, fresh resources, additional money which will help to finance the deficit of the balance of payments, in other words, the difference between the total amount that the country spends abroad and the total amount Peru obtains from exports, credits, investment and services [words indistinct].

[Question] Approximately how much does this amount to in dollars?

[Answer] The short-term loans amount to approximately $2.2 billion. $2 billion, but that is the debt that exists. What we are trying to do is to see that these funds do not dry up.

[Question] That they be continued [Rodriguez interrupts]

[Answer] Yes, of course. They are not a new line of credit. This year's amortizations with the banking sector amount to approximately $450 million and there will be a deficit of approxmiately $900 million to $1 billion. We are going to ask the international banking sector to provide the money to pay a part of that deficit. [end recording]

BANK OFFICIAL ON REFINANCING SHORT-TERM DEBT

PY231945 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Feb 83

[Excerpt] Jose Maria Puppo, president of the Uruguayan Central Bank, stated that it is hoped that the international banking sector will extend the maturity date or reschedule the Uruguayan short-term foreign debt, which used to represent 12 percent of its total debt. Shortly before leaving for London and the United States Puppo stated that the foreign debt of the public sector as of 31 December 1982 amounted to $2.7 billion while the debt of the private banking sector was approximately $1.7 billion.

The following were Puppo's statements to El Espectador at Carrasco Airport:

[Begin Puppo Recording] We are going to try rescheduling a portion of the public sector's debt. Why the public sector's foreign debt? Because the private sector's debt becomes part of the public sector's debt when it has the means to meet its debt payments but cannot obtain the necessary foreign currency to do so. We do not have this problem in Uruguay, therefore, we are only concerned about the public sector debt, which as of 31 December 1982 amounted to $2.7 billion. The private and international banks' debts amount to approximately $1.7 billion, part of which must be settled in the short-term and part in the long-term. What we are going to try to do is to reschedule the short-term portion, which in 1982 became very high or higher than usual. Our short-term debts usually represented 12-14 percent of the total debt but now it has almost doubled due to the problems we had in 1982, for well-known reasons and because the problems worsened during the war over the Malvinas Islands. As a consequence we had great difficulties in obtaining the medium-term loans which we were accustomed to obtaining, and as a consequence had to resort to short-term loans. Once again we were affected by foreign factors which are difficult to foresee and overcome. I repeat, we are going to try rescheduling the short-term loans.

We will also try to obtain additional funds. We are not going to mention any figures for tactical reasons since this has to be negotiated and we do not believe it will be of any help to give exact figures of the funds we hope to obtain through the refinancing of short-term loans and additional amounts. What are we going to do? We are going to outline our situation and our plans first in London, before a group of European creditor banks, and then in New York, Washington and Miami under the same conditions and holding the same type of meetings with the international banking community. [end recording]

MINISTER EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER TERRORIST GROUPS

PY241710 Montevideo El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Feb 83

[Excerpt] At the end of the National Security Council (Cosena) meeting at noon today, Interior Minister Yamandu Trinidad stated that the Uruguayan subversive groups are getting reorganized abroad.

[Begin relay from Government House] The interior minister pointed out the government's deep concern over the organization of terrorist groups in Latin America formed by Uruguayan Tupamaros who have emigrated from the country.

NEW EXCHANGE RATE ANNOUNCED FOR BOLIVAR

PA251752 Paris AFP in Spanish 1709 GMT 25 Feb 83

[By Eduardo Perez Iribarne]

[Excerpts] Caracas, 25 Feb 83 (AFP) -- The Venezuelan Government today charged that there is a subversive campaign (?designed to create) economic "confusion" in the country. Meanwhile, a week of inactivity in the currency market ended today, and the Caracas newspapers have already announced that beginning Monday the 28th the Bolivar will have four different exchange rates. According to the Caracas newspaper EL UNIVERSAL, last night the government approved the new exchange system, which includes four different exchange rates (4, 2, 6, 7 and 9 Bolivares per dollar, according to a table that was still being studied today, Friday).

The government will retain the rate of 4.3 [words indistinct] fiscal transactions abroad and for the Venezuelan foreign debt (whether the state's or private) and for certain strategic imports (food, for instance). The so-called tourism dollar, for trips abroad, will remain at 8 Bolivares, according to EL UNIVERSAL.

HERRERA CAMPINS VISITS NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

PA261416 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0341 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Caracas, 25 Feb (EFE) -- Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins today began a 3-day visit to the neighboring Netherland Antilles island territories of Curacao, Bonaire and Aruba. Herrera is accompanied by Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano and Defense Minister General Vicente Luis Narvaez Churion.

On his arrival in Curacao, President Herrera and his entourage were greeted by Domenico Martina, minister president of the Netherlands Antilles. Regarding the recent economic measures adopted by the Venezuelan Government, which raised rears among Curacao merchants that there would be a decline in tourism, Martina noted that this will not affect the economy of these islands.

Speaking before the parliament of the Netherlands Antilles, Herrera Campins recalled that Venezuelan-Netherlands Antilles friendship has deep historical roots. President Herrera stressed that Venezuela wants friendship with the neighboring countries of the Caribbean and is ready to do its utmost so that the relations between these islands and the continent can become more fruitful.

Trade and development in the neighboring Antilles Islands is nurtured by tourism from Venezuela, from where there is a large influx of travelers, especially on weekends.

[Madrid EFE in Spanish at 1329 GMT on 25 February 83 adds the following: During his stay in the Netherlands Antilles, Herrera CAmpins will also meet with B.M. Leito, governmor of the Netherlands Antilles, to discuss bilateral relations, and with R. Casseres, territorial governor of Curacao.

OIL PRICE POLICY, INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS REPORTED

Pemex Postpones Announcement

FL251530 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1505 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 25 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Pemex announced yesterday that it would postpone the decision to cut the price of national crude. Through a press release, Pemex announced that despite Monday's announcement it was not ready to fix prices on its export crude due to circumstances in the current world market. The semistate enterprise announced that for the moment it has not completed consultations with other oil-producing countries and with its own clients.

Reduced Oil Price 'Hinted'

FL252320 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2157 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Mexico City, 25 Feb 83 (NOTIMEX) -- The Secretariat of Energy, Mines and State-run Industry today hinted the possibility that Mexico might reduce the price of the crude it sells to 21 countries. In a document it states that the state-run enterprise Mexican Petroleum (Pemex) sells oil to the United States, Canada, France, Japan, Israel, Nicaragua and Brazil and that its daily exports average 1,500 [figure as received] barrels at $32.50 for the barrel of light and $25 for the heavy. The document states that Pemex reviews its prices every 3 months with each and everyone of its clients, and that the market's present situation allows one to predict that the prices will drop. It indicates that the current prices have been in effect 1 year and that now they might be modified retroactively to 1 February. It notes that countries such as the Soviet Union, Great Britain and Norway have cut the price of their oil, and Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Nigeria are thinking about reducing the price of crude by $4.

OPEC member countries are meeting in the Persian Gulf to determine the new prices of their oil, but today the price of their crude still remains at $34 for the barrel of the 34 degrees of API quality, that is, better than the Mexican. Meeting with some OPEC officials are Mexico's Secretary of Energy and Mines Francisco Labastida Ochoa, Pemex's International Trade Director Artur Adrian Lajous and other Mexican officials.

According to contracts signed by Pemex and its clients, anyone of the two sides can stop supplying or receiving oil for a period of up to 3 months, without affecting in any way their commercial relations. Up to the present, the situation is stable. Presently several federal government officisls participate in setting the price of the export crude oil, among them are representatives of the Secretariats of Energy, Mines and State-Run Industry, Planning and Budget, Finance and Public Credit and Pemex. Pemex announced last night that the new prices of export crude would not be available today, Friday, and that they would not be announced until next week, after a rigorous examination of the world oil market is completed.

Talks With Venezuela's Calderon

PA251254 Vienna OPECNA in Spanish 0558 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Vienna, 24 Feb (OPECNA) -- The following is the text of the official communique issued at the end of talks held Wednesday in Mexico between President Miguel de la Madrid and Venezuelan Energy and Mines Minister Humberto Calderon Berti: "President Miguel de la Madrid this afternoon received a Venezuelan delegation led by Humberto Calderon Berti, that country's energy and mines minister.

Calderon gave the Mexican president a personal message from Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins, in which Herrera expressed his concern over recent developments in the world oil market and his desire that Mexico and Venezuela act jointly to contribute to order and stability in the oil market.

"At the meeting, which was held at the Los Pinos official residence, it was reiterated that all oil price adjustments should be made in an orderly fashion, rejecting competitive cost reductions that might encourage a comulative decline. Both sides stressed that the oil-producing countries, both OPEC members and those that do not belong to that organization, should share in the responsibility of maintaining order in the market.

"Finally, an appeal was made to intensify the dialogue and consultations between OPEC member countries and countries like Mexico that are not members of the organization. The talks were held in a climate of mutual and cordial understanding. After a fruitful exchange of views about the world oil situation and its short-term outlook, President de la Madrid and his visitors agreed that their countries would dedicate their best efforts to the search for a constructive solution to the current oil situation."

EDITORIAL ON U.S. SENATOR'S 'DIRE' PREDICTIONS

PA251935 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 21 Feb 83 p 3

[Editorial: "Jackson's Dire Predictions"]

[Text] U.S. Democratic Senator Henry Jackson has pointed out that the oil price reduction, the foreign debt and Mexico's domestic tensions might destabilize the country. However, on the basis of an essentially correct report on the Mexican situation, Senator Jackson has derived illogical conclusions with ominous overtones. This in no way seems casual, judging from the following assertions: "There might be a revolution, and we might end up with a Castroite government on our border." In an excess of interpretive and imaginative extrapolation, he therefore suggests that the U.S. forces overseas should return to defend the U.S. southern border. This might be the gist of the Senator's statement, regardless of the inadmissible paternalism implicit in it.

To say that Mexico is practically at the threshold of a revolution and that it is the "true target of all of Castro-Soviet activity in Central America" reveals at the very least ingorance, if not ill will, on the part of the legislator. In principle, the U.S. politician, who enjoys considerable influence in his circle, is magnifying the true features of the Mexican situation, the gravity of which can be neither avoided nor concealed, to conclude in alarmist fashion that the U.S.-Mexican border must be defended. This might have serious consequences which, among other things, might once again hamper the relations between the two countries.

At moments of international crisis, assertions such as Jackson's can also harm business and tourism between the United States and Mexico and therefore intensify some of the economic problems in our country, due to our economy's degree of dependence on foreign factors. The fact of the matter regarding threats that exist only in Senator Jackson's strange thinking is that a military defense of the border with Mexico would also bring difficult consequences for the Mexican workers on the other side of the border. Obviously, it would also create distrust, it not downright fear, in local and foreign investors and in potential foreign visitors. The situation gets even worse when the senator hints, obviously ignorant about our political system, that unless the U.S. Government looks into our problems the Mexican Government might be replaced before the end of the current 6-year term, The senator is thus fostering rumors that even the most backward domestic reaction hesitates to spread.

CANADA STRESSES OIL TECHNOLOGY IN TRADE TALKS

FL261615 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0800 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Mexico City, 26 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Canada is ready to provide Mexico with petroleum-related technology which should lessen Mexico's dependence on the United States in this industry, Horst Schmidt, Canada's minister of state for international trade [name and title as received], stated here today.

Interviewed at the conclusion of the Mexico-Canada bilateral meeting sponsored by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Mexico, schmidt said he favored holding talks on the operation of petroleum equipment, a field in which his country is the world leader in the area of refining crude.

Schmidt asserted that the joint investment conditions offered by Canada in this area are better than those proposed by France, Japan, the FRG or the United States.

Hilario Genoves, representative of the Mexican Enterprise Council for International Affairs [Consejo Empresarial Mexicano Para Asuntos Internacionales], said he believed this was the right time to increase trade relations with Canada, above all in the area of petroleum materials and capital and manufactured goods. Genoves stressed that Mexico has great potential for generating foreign currency from the export of fresh vegetables which are in great demand on the Canadian market.

COUNTRY TO SIGN $5 BILLION CREDIT ON 28 FEB

FL231350 Mexico City Voz de la America Latina in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Feb 83

[Text] Francisco Suarez Davila, under secretary for finance and public credit, has reported that the $5 billion credit which was granted to Mexico by approximately 1,200 international banks will be signed on Monday. The country will be advanced $15 million this week. These funds will be used for priority needs, the official noted.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR APPOINTMENTS -- Mexico City, 25 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico's Foreign Secretariat today announced the appointments of new Mexican ambassadors in Spain, Poland and the FRG. The Secretariat announced the presidential appointments of: Rodolfo Gonzalez Guevara as ambassador to Spain; Carlos Gonzalez Parrodi as ambassador to Poland; and Cesar Sepulveda Gutierrez as ambassador to the FRG. [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0255 GMT 26 Feb 83 FL]

ENVOY TO ARGENTINA SWORN IN -- The new Mexican ambassador to Argentina, Ignacio Ovalle Fernandez, today took his oath of office before a plenary session of the Congress of the Union. [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0030 GMT 24 Feb 83 FL]

AMBASSADOR TO GDR -- Rogelio Martinez de Aguilar has been appointed Mexican ambassador to the GDR. He is former director of the Foreign Secretariat's economic affairs. [Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 18 Feb 83 p 5 PA]

MARCHERS PROTEST DIPLOMAT'S RUMORED VISIT

PA262119 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 25 Feb 83 p 5

[From "The Notebook" column]

[Text] Yesterday's civic march in Santiago resulted from rumors that Ambassador Briggs' first secretary had requested a visit to the Veraguas governor's office. The visit was cancelled because of its very nature.

ILLUECA CRITICIZED FOR TRIP TO ARGENTINA

PA241950 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 24 Feb 83 p 1-A

["As of Today" column]

[Text] With the opportunistic attitude that characterizes the leaders of the process, Dr Jorge Illueca has just travelled to Argentina to honor and be honored by a military government unanimously hated by its people. Illueca decorated his hosts, who in turn decorated him at one of those ceremonies which have delighted all of the world's mimes. The pretext was Panama's support for Argentina during the Malvinas conflict. The vice president was not merely content to publicly appear with those responsible for both the ruin of our sister country and the murder, torture and disappearance of thousands of its citizens. Authorized by who knows whom, the vice president has offered all of the Latin American armies -- presumably this would also include the Panamanian Army with its General Staff at the forefront -- to wage a new war for the archipelago. All this was done while his bosses and colleagues shout themselves hoarse here proclaiming the advantages of neutrality and social peace. The regime seems determined not to back down in the face of anything, not even in the face of ridicule, provided it continues to play, until the final curtain falls, the role of world power factor which foreign interests have assigned to it in this comedy of errors, whose tragic consequences are being paid for by the Panamanian people.

OPPOSITION MEETING WITH KIRKPATRICK DISCUSSED

PA250232 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 24 Feb 83 p 11-A

[By Vladimir Sandoval and Jose Quintero de Leon]

[Text] The Popular Nationalist Party president [Olimpo Saez] asserted during the "Domplin's Gunboat" morning talk show that the opposition's meeting with Ambassador Kirkpatrick had not been beneficial for either party because in-depth political topics were not discussed, only minor "domestic problems" and General Paredes' possible candidacy.

Saez also said it was true that Kirkpatrick offered her knowledge of political science for the "drafting" of Panama's constitution. He protested this at once, as did Dr Richardo Arias Calderon from the PDC [Christian Democratic Party] and Dr Mario Galindo from Molirena [Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement].

Questioned on the subject, Liberal Party President Arnulfo Escalona asserted that Kirkpatrick made an offhand remark as a New York law professor. Escalona added that "the opposition does not have to beg for anything. Its victory is assured in this country, since the people prefer to vote against the government because of attrition, other well-known reasons and the administrative blunders committed in these 14 years." The Liberal Party President said: "The opposition parties could hardly seek support at any of the embassies since the opposition's support lies with the people's votes. The conversation described by the government papers did not take place at any time during that meeting."

He added that only topics such as democracy were discussed, since democracy is the only guarantee against alien ideas in our America, and it was acknowledged that the United States has stopped its former position of support for the military dictatorships and now instead supports the democratic regimes on our American Continent.

The Authentic Panamenist Party representative, Guillermo Endara, said over the phone that all that was published by the newspaper MATUTINO was intended to harm the opposition. When asked for details, however, he declined comment on the topics discussed with Ambassador Kirkpartrick, since he considers that it was a confidential meeting and its results are not for public knowledge. Endara was surprised to learn that Popular Nationalist Party President Olimpo Saez was the source of the report on the meeting published in the official newspapers.

LA PRENSA also tried twice to talk to Dr Mario J. Galindo, Molierna's representative on the commission for review of the political constitution of the Republic of Panama, but on both occasions the effort was fruitless. One of his secretaries told our newsmen that he "would not grant interviews to anyone."

PDC CALLS FOR CREATION OF OPPOSITION FRONT

PA271628 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 25 Feb 83 pp 48, C-8

[Communique issued by the Christian Democratic Party in Panama City on 21 February -- capitalized passage published in upper case]

[Text] THE NATIONAL DIRECTORATE OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY on analyzing the political situation existing in the country, has agreed to make the following statement:

1. It points out that any decision on a sea-level canal demands, by virtue of its importance, broad discussion and a clear national consensus. Therefore, such a decision could be made only after the democratization of the country has been completed, thanks to substantial constitutional changes and honest elections that result in new and legitimate authorities. Meanwhile, the PDC feels that it is the government's duty officially to inform all the nation's political parties of its policy on the subject, and on what arrangements have been made with Japan and the United States to carry out feasibility studies. The party therefore demands a formal meeting between the foreign minister and the deputy administrator of the Panama Canal Commission and representatives of the nation's parties for this purpose.

2. It states that the process of democratization that is currently underway should be concluded quickly and with great seriousness, by means of substantial constitutional changes, to create truly democratic institutions by establishing a reliable electoral system and by honest elections that lead to new and legitimate authorities. A coup d'etat among those who are still ruling is not the path to democratization, nor can it provide an excuse to prevent democratization.

3. It reaffirms its conviction that the Panamanian people want the democratic opposition to unite as an indispensable means of establishing a true democracy that is capable of facing up to the country's serious socioeconomic problems. The PDC is prepared to initiate, as soon as possible, talks to formalize a democratic oppositon front to guarantee the realization of substantial constitutional changes, ensure the functioning of a reliable electoral system, present joint candidates in the coming elections and share responsibility for the initial administration in accordance with a basic government program.

EL SALVADOR

ARMY CITES FMLN-FDR PLAN TO DECEIVE PUBLIC

PA251326 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 24 Feb 82 pp 2, 11

[Text] The terrorist groups are depending on three methods to gain time, the military authorities disclosed yesterday in a communique based on documents that the armed forces seized from those groups in April 1981. The army communique says that the methods are dialogue, mediation and negotiation, and that the terrorist groups are using these as part of their strategy to gain time.

The army communique says textually: "The leaders of subversion in the Salvadoran conflict will hold negotiations as a last resort to avoid a defeat.

"This can be inferred from a document published by local and international news media on 27 April 1981, which unfortunately our people have forgotten.

"The document that was delivered to the armed forces talks about three methods to be used as part of a strategic plan for the 'fall' of El Salvador. These methods are dialogue, mediation and negotiation.

"Since the tactic of dialogue has failed, the FMLN and the Revolutionary Democratic Front, FDR, leaders are trying to obtain support from several countries for what appears to be a positive move on their part.

"The subversive groups talk about 'being careful not to reveal the maneuver to our democratic allies, (Mexico, Panama and others). We must talk in terms of our foreign policy, so as not to disclose the maneuver.'

"Mediation and negotiation are simply part of the subversive groups' war strategy, with which they are trying to deceive international public opinion while they gain time to replenish their supplies and for their worn-out forces to recover.

"This is also mentioned in the subversive groups' document, which says 'time is essential. The success of these maneuvers (mediation or negotiation) to a large extent depends on the right timing, since this is a diversionary maneuver while promoting our main objective, which is war. Timing is an important factor in our military plan of war.'

"This means that the terrorists will not accept any cease-fire proposal, and that negotiations are only a way to gain time. In summary, it is a tactical maneuver that in no way will benefit the Salvadoran people," the army communique concluded.

CIVILIANS HELP ARMY REPEL EXTREMISTS IN TEJUTLA

PA251341 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 24 Feb 83 pp 2, 21

[Text] Military sources have reported that a new outbreak of terrorist violence near Tejutla, Chalatenango Department, has been repelled by the brave actions of civilians who cooperated with the army.

According to reports, armed extremist groups have been in the neighborhood of Tejutla since last weekend, possibly with the intention of seizing the town to carry out acts of vandalism. So far, their attempts to seize the town have failed because the armed forces, with the cooperation of the population and civil defense forces, have foiled the subversive groups' plans.

Although the military source could not give more details of the actions, he did say that what is significant is the patriotic way in which the population reacted to prevent the extremists from carrying out their objectives.

Finally, the military source said that after being in the Tejutla area for 3 days, the extremists were forced to flee, carrying their dead and wounded with them. The government forces suffered no casualties, the same source added.

PRESIDENT, DEFENSE MINISTER VISIT SUCHITOTO

PA260422 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 25 Feb 83 pp 3, 37

[Excerpts] Yesterday, President Alvaro Magana visited Suchitoto. He was accompanied by Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia and other high-ranking military officers. They were received by municipal authorities, who told them of the serious problems they are facing.

President Magana promised them that their problems will be given priority attention. The city officials told him that their most urgent needs are water, medical services and electricity.

Meanwhile, Colonel Blandon reported that in the terrorist camp of Palo Grande, the army found important war materiel, a large quantity of medicine, a communications center, a training school and a workshop to manufacture explosives. Colonel Blandon said that the army has inflicted a large number of casualties.

Finally, he added that the operation had been successful because they destroyed the guerrilla camps in El Salitre, Los Lirios, Mirandia, El Zapote, Palo Grande, El Roble, La Presa and La Caja. They also recovered 12 tractors stolen from area farmers and 4 loaders stolen from the National Sugar Institute. The operation will continue indefinitely, Colonel Blandon said.

PAPER SAYS GUERRILLAS CONTROL NORTHERN HIGHWAY

PA260417 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 24 Feb 83 p 3

[Excerpts] Some 300 guerrillas with mortars, rocket launchers, bazookas and rifles occupied Tejutla, Chalatenango Department, early yesterday morning. Tejutla is located at km 64 of the main northern highway. Some townspeople who managed to escape reported that the town was occupied after an intense attack launched from several points at 2300 the day before yesterday.

A military source who confirmed the residents' report added that there has been no word on the city hall, telecommunications and post office workers nor on the population in general, now that the subversives have occupied the town.

Other reports indicate that the guerrillas have set up checkpoints on the main northern highway, 8 km before the entrance to the road to Tejutla.

The same sources added that La Reina is still occupied by the guerrillas, who are in control of the zone from a place known as El Salitre on the main northern highway. Reports have been received saying that San Ignacio is surrounded by some 300 guerrillas and that near La Palma, in the place called El Tunel, El Gramal canton, the extremists have observation posts and checkpoints. The reports also say that from the high ground where they have their radio equipment the guerrillas can report on all movement along the main northern highway.

DEFENSE MINISTER ADMITS GUERRILLA 'INITIATIVE'

PA270022 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2321 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 26 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- Salvadoran Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia today admitted that the guerrillas have the initiative over the armed forces. Garcia pointed out, however, that until now there has not been a place in El Salvador where the army had said it would go to counteract any action and then failed to do so. He added, "When we say we are going, we go."

General Garcia made these statements after meeting with U.S. Republican Congressmen Sensebrenner and Dannemeyer. At the end of the meeting General Garcia said that the Army operation in Morazan and the current operation in Cerro Guazapa, 20 km north of the capital, were "successful."

The minister, however, admitted that the guerrillas are still strong in Guazapa, one of their main redoubts, "although the armed forces are pursuing them there." The defense minister confirmed that the U.S.-trained Ramon Belloso Battalion has withdrawn from the northern half of Morazan Department, but that another unit has relieved it.

Garcia expressed fears that the FMLN might return to northern Morazan, taking advantage of the closeness to the Honduran border, but added that the army has left a force there to try to prevent it.

ARMY RECOVERS TEJUTLA, SETS UP SECURITY CORDON

PA270210 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 25 Feb 83 p 1

[Text] Late yesterday afternoon, after 8 hours of heavy fighting, members of the El Paraiso 4th Infantry Brigade and Chalatenango Military Detachment No 1 dislodged the guerrillas that had occupied the town of Tejutla, Chalatenango Department, km 64 on the main northern highway.

A military source from that area's garrison reported today that 60 subversives, Sgt Ovidio Contreras and an Army corporal were killed during the fighting. He also reported the recovery of 32 G-3, M-16 and Galil rifles, handgrenades, ammuniton and incendiary bombs.

The troops converged in Tejutla at approximately 1000 yesterday. With Salvadoran Air Force and artillery support, they began the offensive, which ended at 1800 with the complete dislodgment of the guerrillas, who fled toward San Francisco Morazan. The army followed them there and it was reported that fighting continued in that area today. That area, where the guerrillas are mounting resistance, is being bombed and machine-gunned by airplanes and helicopters.

While military units established a security for Tejutla, other soldiers encouraged area residents to renew their activities, especially in transportation, communications and so forth. It was reported that soldiers have set up checkpoints on the main northern highway.

REBELS OCCUPY AREA NORTH OF TOROLA RIVER

PA270241 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 25 Feb 83 p 1

[Text] San Martin military sources have reported that several cantons and villages in Tenancingo, Cuscatlan, department, were attacked by many guerrillas who had been dislodged by the army from the Sichitoto area. The rebels, who are moving eastward, are raiding and attacking rural communities to acquire food, weapons and information on Army acitivity.

It was said that special troops of the 1st Infantry Brigade, with the support of other army units, today continued harassing the guerrillas.

It was learned from another quarter today that many well-equipped guerrillas have once again occupied the area north of the Torola River, north of San Francisco Gotera, Morazan Department. During a raid 2 months ago the bridge over the Torola River, on the road to Perquin, was dynamited and destroyed. As a result of the occupation of the area north of the Torola River, it is said that the guerrillas have extended into an area of San Miguel and La Union Departments where the army continues intense patrolling so that the guerrillas may regroup. [sentence as published]

REBEL DOCUMENTS ON SUCHITOTO OCCUPATION SEIZED

PA270346 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 25 Feb 83 p 32

[Excerpts] Col Adolfo O. Blandon, chief of military operations in Suchitoto and commander of the 1st Infantry Brigade (San Carlos headquarters), informed members of the Armed Forces high command who visited the city yesterday that the guerrillas were requesting reinforcements to attack the town and repeat what had happened in Berlin, Usulutan.

Blandon said that the documents seized by the armed forces at Palo Grande, the main guerrilla camp in Suchitoto, included plans and maps for the offensive during which Suchitoto would be occupied, as well as orders issued to platoon commanders for the city to be looted and destroyed. Other officers said that they found booklets and documents at the camps that implicate people and institutions who have been cooperating with the guerrillas.

HAVANA CITES GUERRILLA CONTROL OF 15 TOWNS

PA251355 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Feb 83

[Text] With the occupation of the city of Tejutla, Salvadoran guerrilla forces now control 15 towns in Chalatenango Department. They have the departmental capital encircled, and they control the only road north to Honduras. Press reports indicate heavy fighting in other towns in Chalatenango Department, including La Palma. Reports also indicate that the rebels have once again attacked San Francisco Gotera, departmental capital of Morazan, with automatic weapons.

Salvadoran Army troops have set fire to the woods of Guazapa hill, where for the past 13 days guerrilla forces have been tenaciously fighting thousands of soldiers around Suchitoto.

It has also been reported that the Salvadoran insurgents control Perquin in Morazan Department, from where they disloged 1,000 members of the U.S.-trained Ramon Belloso battalion on Tuesday.

International news agencies also report that guerrilla commandos have downed several electrical poles along the main northern highway, and that four U.S. Republican congressmen have arrived in San Salvador to meet with officials of the genocidal regime.

Further Havana Report

PA272304 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] According to dispatches from El Salvador, guerrilla forces control 27 cities in Chalatenango, San Miguel, Morazan and La Union, while heavy fighting continues in Tonacatepeque and San Jose Guayabal, in San Salvador and Cuscatlan Departments.

The reports also note that, fearing a guerrilla attack, the Salvadoran regime patrolled intensively the vicinity of San Vicente, capital of San Vicente Department. According to government reports, rebel columns were seen in the past few hours on the eastern side of San Vicente, specifically in La Paz farm and canton (Chincuyo), only 5 km from San Vicente.

Guerrilla forces are engaged in heavy fighting with the army in northern Chalatenango Department, and clashes are more intense in San Francisco Morazan, where government troops are supported by A-37 planes that continually bomb the area. Radio Venceremos, official voice of the FMLN, reported that violent clashes are taking place near the Torola River, in Morazan Department, and that the rebels had pushed back army batallions.

RADIO VENCEREMOS REPORTS ON FMLN ACTIVITIES

Cites Government Warning to Press

PA272303 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1400 GMT 27 Feb 83

[Text] Alvaro Magana's regime has once again threatened foreign reporters, accusing them of sending false information abroad and saying that this will be sanctioned. The foreign reporters have been called to a meeting with the government next week. It was learned that the meeting is to inform the reporters that measures will be taken because of the false information they are sending abroad.

Central Front Communique

PA280411 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 28 Feb 83

[Battle communique issued by the Anastasio Aquino Paracentral Front, San Pedro hills, date not given -- read by announcer]

[Text] On 24 February at 2230, FMLN forces staged a siege on military positions in La Esperanza de San Sebastian, San Vicente Department. After heavy combat that lasted 23 hours, our forces attacked the positions. These positions are located in some of the higher areas of this zone and were protected by seven casemates, lines of trenches and minefields.

As a result of this action we recovered 7 G-3 rifles, 1 pistol, 11 hand grenades, 2,000 rounds of ammunition, 10 mines and other military equipment, and inflicted 15 casualties on the enemy. Another position 200 meters away was dislodged by our forces. The enemy fled after being harassed.

This operation was named Companero (Armando Rosas). Chief of Operations: Companeros (Carlos), (Mario), (Zenobio), (Rudy), (Marcos) and (Jesus Ramirez).[Signed] Commander Ernesto Flores

GUATEMALA

'STATE OF ALARM' TO REPLACE 'SIEGE' 27 FEB

PA251911 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] This week the government will lift the state of siege, which has been in force in Guatemala since 1 July 1982, but will replace it with what is to be called a state of alarm, it was learned today from semi-official sources. The state of siege as such will remain in effect through Sunday, 27 February, and the state of alarm will go into effect Monday , 28 February, it was noted.

More on Siege Regulations

PA261922 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1230 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] The government has extended the state of siege for 25 days. Therefore, it will expire on 22 March, 1 day before the new democratic laws go into effect. It is believed, however, that the government may replace the state of siege with a state of alert. The only thing it has done in the way of granting freedoms is to extend the state of siege for a shorter period.

In order to issue Law Decree 17-83, the government said that the causes of the disruption of social peace and public order that led to the establishment of this exceptional state still exist. The extension of the state of siege will take effect today, when the previous extension expires.

Government Decree 84-83 was issued simultaneously yesterday. It extends for an additional 25 days the special provisions that must be applied to enforce the state of siege. These provisions ban meetings and the carrying of firearms, and order owners of weapons to turn them over to the appropriate authorities.

GUERRILLAS TO OBSERVE TRUCE DURING POPE'S VISIT

PA261642 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 1230 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Mexico City (DPA) -- The four Guatemalan guerrilla organizations that comprise the revolutionary unity of Guatemala have officially declared a 6-day military truce in view of the pope's trip to Guatemala.

In a communique released in Mexico City and signed by the commanders of the four organizations, the guerrillas announced that they have decided to decree the truce in view of their respect for Pope John Paul II, head of the Catholic Church, whose faith is shared by the majority of the Guatemalan people.

The communique states that the guerrillas will observe the truce for the 3 days preceding the pope's arrival, during his stay in Guatemala and for 2 days after his departure. The pope will visit Guatemala on 7 March.

The guerrillas added that the pontiff will be able to see for himself the injustice, inequality, persecution and genocide as well as the nature and substance of the struggle of the Guatemalan people and their Central American brothers.

The four organizations are: the People's Guerrilla Army, EGP; the Rebel Armed Forces, FAR; the Armed People's Revolutionary Organization, ORPA, and the Guatemalan Labor party, PGT. The document is signed by Rolando Moran for the EGP, Pablo Monsanto, for FAR, Gaspar Ilon for ORPA and (Mario Sanchez) for the PGT.

GOVERNMENT DENIES VIOLATION OF MEXICAN AIRSPACE

PA250321 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 24 Feb 83 p 2

[Text] The government yesterday categorically denied an AFP report from Mexico that said Guatemalan airplanes violated Mexico airspace when they bombed Guatemalan border towns such as El Salamar. The AFP report cites Mr Gonzalo Valencia, municipal president of Union Juarez, a town in Chiapas on the border with Guatemala. The statement attributed to the official indicated that the Guatemalan airplanes flew over the Mexican towns of Coachapan, Faja de Oro, Santo Domingo and Union Juarez where Guatemalan refugees camps are located.

In a statement to EL GRAFICO last night, newsman Gonzalo Asturias, the government's public relations secretary, indicated that inquiries were made, particularly in the army, and that all the replies agreed in stating that it is totally false that Guatemalan Air Force airplanes flew over Mexican territory at that time.

The government spokesman added that consulted military sources said that the air force and army are very careful about respecting the borderline and that their members have been instructed not to violate Mexican territory at any time. Therefore, Asturias added, the reports in this regard are completely groundless.

Regarding a report by the Mexican newspaper EL ORBE, which said that Mexico has charged that several "shrimp and shark" fishing boats and their crews are missing after being seized on the high seas by Guatemalan Coast Guard vessels, the government spokesman described the report as "exaggerated and imaginative."

In truth, Asturias said, that report does not even merit comment because it is not only imaginative but absurd. It is impossible that "many boats can be seized and even more impossible that they have disappeared on the high seas." Proof of this, he said, is that at no time has the Mexican Government presented any protest and the only incident that occurred some weeks ago involving a Mexican patrol boat has been fully cleared up.

FOREIGN MINISTER TRAVELS TO UNITED STATES

PA2617C9 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] The foreign minister of Guatemala did not stop in Merida [Mexico] to obtain information on the refugees. The acting foreign minister today said it is not true that Foreign Minister Castilla Arriola went to Merida, Yucatan state, to meet with Mexican authorities about the Guatemalan refugee problem.

The acting foreign minister said it is true that Castillo Arriola made a stopover in Mexico, but the reason for this is that he was on an Aviateca flight to the United States landing in New Orleans. This flight makes a stopover in Merida, but this does not mean that the foreign minister stopped in Mexico. The minister continued on his trip to the United States, the acting foreign minister said.

HAVANA INTERVIEWS ORPA MEMBER ON U.S. AID

PA260016 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Pedro Martinez Pirez interview with (Antolin Perez), member of the Guatemalan Armed Peoples Revolutionary Organization, ORPA; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] (Antolin), first of all I would like your opinion on the fact that the Ronald Reagan government has decided to clearly increase military aid to the regime of Efrain Rios Montt.

[Answer] In 1981, the most reactionary sector of the oligarchy and the Army high command placed all their hopes on Reagan's arrival in power and they sent several million dollars in aid to make him commit himself to granting military, political and economic support when he took office. The Reagan administration was subsequently unable to give that aid because it found that the Lucas Garica government was internationally discredited and very corrupt. The Reagan administration did not want to assume all the political cost of committing itself to a government that was incapable of defeating the revolutionary movement and incapable of guaranteeing that the aid would be used in view of the great corruption. Imperialism then decided on a coup d'etat, which is the one staged by Rios Montt so that he would pacify the country and stop the development of the revolutionary movement.

However, Rios Montt did not achieve this. Instead, he staged a charade and proclaimed himself the victor, saying that he has pacified the country. He promises democracy and elections; he publicizes false social development programs. With all these maneuvers, he is trying to justify the U.S. aid.

[Question] In view of this aid, could one say that Rios Montt has been able to consolidate his power?

[Answer] No, after a year in power Rios Montt has been unable to consolidate his power. Proof of this are two coup attempts by his own generals, the great crisis of power in the army's high-level leadership, the crisis between sectors of the oligarchy and the army, the country's economic crisis, unemployment and the opposition to the government from the traditional parties. The Rios Montt government has been unable to consolidate its power essentially due to the blows from the guerrillas. The people's discontent as well as the regime's international isolation and repudiation have also had an effect on this.

[Question] It is significant that the Guatemala regime is greatly discredited abroad. Nevertheless, Rios Montt tries to give a different public image. How is this contradiction reconciled?

[Answer] This is easy to answer. He has had to lie in an attempt to convince the people. But he has had to do this by establishing the state of siege to silence the news of revolutionary actions. He has instituted a domestic and international news blackout. He does this with the complicity of U.S. and proimperialist press agencies. This is why they publicize his final victory and keep silent about all the battles and defeats he has suffered, while at the same time inventing victories in nonexistent battles or protraying civilians as guerrillas. They announce the total pacification of the country and publicize false invitations to international organizations to witness the respect for human rights in the country. This is how Rios Montt tries to carry out his deceit.

[Question] Very briefly, want do you think the main result of the increased U.S. military aid to the Guatemala regime will be?

[Answer] The main result will be increased sorrow and bloodshed for our people. That is the result that we forsee, because it will not stop the war in our country since our people are determined to fight to the end.

[Question] (Antolin), what other results do you think this military aid will have for the United States and the Guatemalan regime?

[Answer] Since this increase will be a failure, the United States is getting involved in a war that is already lost. It is the same war that the United States is also losing in El Salvador and in its confrontation with the Sandinist revolution. To the extent that the United States regionalizes this conflict, it is condemned to total failure.

HONDURAS

'FREE NICARAGUA' STATION BEGINS TRANSMISSION

PA260109 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1750 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Choluteca, Honduras, 25 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- A radio station that is calling for a "democratic government" and is supposedly transmitting "from somewhere in Nicaragua" was heard for the first time today in southern Honduras. The station identifies itself as "Free Nicaragua" and broadcasts on the 60 m band from 0500 to 2100 (1100 to 0300 GMT).

Some Nicaraguans living in this area say they recognize the voice of Eden Pastora, former Sandinist interior minister, in some of the station's political messages. The station said that its programming reflects the thoughts of the anti-Sandinist Nicaraguan Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE).

The tone of "Free Nicaragua's" analysis is rather moderate, and although it constantly criticizes the nine commanders who are part of the Nicaraguan executive branch, it does not insult them.

NICARAGUAN RESPONSE TO INVITATION CRITICIZED

PA251500 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Press release issued by the Honduran Foreign Ministry on 24 February -- read by announcer]

The Nicaraguan Government, through its acting foreign minister, Nora Astorga, has rejected the invitation sent by Honduran Foreign Minister Edgardo Paz Barnica to his Nicaraguan counterpart Miguel d'Escoto Brockman on 24 February, saying that the Nicaraguan foreign minister is not in Nicaragua because he is responding to previous official invitations.

In this way, the Nicaraguan Government is evading a concrete answer on the issue. They are also misinterpreting our foreign minister's note to make it seem that there are really Somozist counterrevolutionary camps at the places they have been invited to visit.

In view of this, the Honduran Foreign Ministry today sent the following message to the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry:

Cablegram No 9 D.A. Tegucigalpa 24 February 1983

Your excellency Nora Astorga, acting foreign minister, Managua, Nicaragua:

I respectfully address you to acknowledge receipt of the message sent by you yesterday, which attempts to answer the note sent by Foreign Minister Edgardo Paz Barnica on the 18th of this month inviting his excellency Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto to visit jointly the border areas to personally confirm that there are no Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary camps in Honduras. At no time, as you claim, has he been invited to inspect places where Somozist counterrevolutionary camps are located in our territory.

Starting with this original distortion, Your Excellency then proceeds to enumerate the Nicaraguan foreign minister's many pending visits that will keep him away from Nicaragua until the end of March. This implies nonacceptance of the Honduran invitation.

Our initiative, as clearly stated in the invitation, was made in the sincere spirit of rapprochement that characterizes our government in its quest for peace in the area. In this regard, I reiterate to Your Excellency our permanent willingness to hold a dialogue, which unfortunately has not found an echo in your illustrious government.

Your Excellency should recall that during the visit Foreign Minister Paz Barnica made to Nicaragua on November, it was agreed that the commanders of both countries' naval forces would meet again at a time and place to be decided by the Nicaraguan authorities. As of today, we have received nothing further regarding this meeting, which we think would be very useful in preventing maritime incidents like that of the 17th of this month, when the Honduran fishing vessel "Bonnie Liz" was bombed by a Sandinist Air Force plane in Honduran territorial waters.

Your Excellency has declined our invitation, at the same time listing a series of armed clashes between Sandinist armed forces and the so-called counterrevolutionary forces. As our government has said several times, it regrets the climate of domestic violence prevailing in Nicaragua, which among other things creates an increasingly stronger flow of Nicaraguan refugees toward Honduras.

If the Nicaraguan foreign minister had so wished, he could have confirmed that the only camps along the border are those built to shelter the many Nicaraguans who are being looked after by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Hoping that in the near future the illustrious Nicaraguan Government will decide sincerely to join us in our efforts to achieve peace and understanding in Central America, I take advantage of this opportunity to reiterate to Your Excellency my highest esteem.

[Signed] Arnulfo Pineda Lopez acting foreign minister

COMMENTARY ON GENERAL ALVAREZ' PRESS CONFERENCE

PA250034 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 24 Feb 83

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] Yesterday we paid special attention to the remarks of the armed forces commander in chief to a group of reporters from San Pedro Sula. Since General Alvarez Martinez seldom speaks to the press, the emphatic tone he uses on such occasions is always impressive.

Shortly after the beginning of the brief interview, a reporter asked him about the rumors of a possible coup promoted by the armed forces. General Alvarez Martinez, evidently annoyed, reprimanded the reporter ane criticized his lack of seriousness for asking such a question. Even we were surprised at the question of the reporter, whom we failed to identify, because there have been no such rumors.

In previous commentaries we have pointed out that the government we elected a year ago is probably not the best in our country's history, but that the alternatives offered to Honduran civilians are the best guarantees we have that we will come out of the predicament into which civilian and military leaders have plunged the country for the past 25 years.

The armed forces members themselves have come to realize that they do not have the administrative solution for Honduras. They also understand that for the benefit of the country, it is best to let the civilians decide the country's future.

If the men in uniform, showing a high sense of responsibility, have understood their true historic role, there is no need for us, reporters, to spread false stories when, in fact, nobody is talking about coups. It is a sore spectacle to see reporters criticizing themselves for such lies that, if often repeated, could turn into dangerous rumors.

It is time to stop thinking about such ominous predictions and, instead, to exhort the government to correct the numerous mistakes of past administrations. We must encourage the government to follow a constructive policy that may once and for all eradicate this cruel and ungrateful sectarianism that is affecting even the liberals, and to continue stamping out corruption in the administration. Also, since cherity begins at home, now that the president is rallying for a national dialogue, the government should begin to smooth over things that have separated him from some leaders of his own party who now accuse him of promoting dissent and blame him for the recent Liberal Party expulsions.

The president should try to convince Liberal and opposition political leaders to moderate their ambitions and act like good Hondurans, responsible for the present administration's prestige or discredit.

NICARAGUA

FOREIGN MINISTRY RESPONDS TO HONDURAN INVITATION

PA251407 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 24 Feb 83

[Text] Nicaragua will lodge a protest with the United States over the recent counter-revolutionary aggressions from Honduras, for which it blames President Ronald Reagan's government because of its criminal and aggressive policy. This is stated in a note sent by Acting Foreign Minister Nora Astorga in reply to Honduran Foreign Minister Edgardo Paz Barnica, who had previously suggested a meeting with his Nicaraguan counterpart, Miguel d'Escoto. The note stresses that when Paz Barnica proposed this meeting, he knew perfectly well that D'Escoto had been abroad since 11 February, where he will remain until the closing of the seventh Nonalighed Movement summit in New Delhi.

The acting Nicaragun foreign minister's note asks that the chiefs of the two countries' armed forces meet, as agreed on 13 May 1981, not only to discuss measures to solve the tense border situation but also to inspect the border area. The note adds that from 20 January to 17 February bands of former Somozist guardsmen from Honduras staged 27 armed incursions into Nicaraguan territory. As a result of these actions, 15 people were killed, 30 were injured and 11 Nicaraguan citizens were kidnapped.

CALL FOR REGIONAL MEETING SEEN AS 'POSITIVE'

PA261337 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] The recent call by the Honduran, Costa Rican and Salvadoran foreign ministers for a meeting of Central American heads of state made a few days before the pope's visit to the region is the ultimate effort to conceal their previous failures in their attempts to isolate Nicaragua.

Public opinion is already familiar with the stident statements issued by these three foreign ministers every time they meet. Their statements bring no definite results, except for the continuation of armed and economic attacks against the Sandinist revolution.

After the failure of the so-called Central American Democratic Community and the Forum for Peace -- both created under U.S. guidance -- the Salvadoran, Honduran and Costa Rican foreign ministers blocked the proposals made by Mexico, Venezuela, France, Colombia, Panama and Nicaragua aimed at promoting an open dialogue, without any prior conditions, among forces struggling in the region. Now, using the pope's visit as a framework, they are making a new proposal, which includes solutions that these same foreign ministers had previously rejected: Thus, the sincerity of their proposal is doubtful.

Nevertheless, it must be recognized as a positive development that the new proposal of the three foreign ministers means a formal departure from their previous path, which led to confrontation following Washington's guidance. How far they will go remains to be seen.

DEFENSE MINISTER ON NEED TO STRENGTHEN MILITARY

PA260501 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Humberto Ortega, warned in Managua on Thursday that the dangerous and arrogant statements by U.S. officials and area regimes confirm the need for Nicaragua to continue strengthening its military capability in order to successfully confront any enemy aggression.

Speaking to the Sandinist militia, which will celebrate its third anniversary on Saturday, Daniel Ortega [as heard] praised the advances of this military corps which has demonstrated its effectiveness through decisive participation in operations against the counterrevolutionary bands made up of former Somoza guardsmen who constantly attack Nicaragua.

The Nicaraguan minister stressed Nicaragua's efforts to achieve political and mature solutions to the region problems, contrasting those efforts with the support that the CIA and the Honduran Army give to the counterrevolutionary bands that constantly attack Nicaragua from Honduras.

Comments on Militia

PA261632 Paris AFP in Spanish 2219 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Managua, 25 Feb (AFP) -- Nicaraguan Defense Minister Humberto Ortega today warned that the threat of a military aggression against his country is greater now, and that he believes "the threat of a war exists."

Speaking at an event commemorating the third anniversary of the Sandinist People's Militia (MPS), Ortega noted that "we cannot lower our guard" in our defense organization, and indicated that the number of militia units throughout the country increased by 20 percent in 1982.

There are now 2,000 small units organized throughout the country, the minister added, without giving any figures on personnel strength.

At an event marking the founding of the MPS, which celebrates its third anniversary tomorrow, Ortega said that more emphasis will be made in 1983 on improving the quality of the militiamen's training.

Ortega noted that the growth of the militia -- whose total number of men is not known, but is estimated at some 80,000 -- last year contributed to the strengthening of the permanent troops and the infantry brigades of the Sandinist People's Army (EPS).

Ortega explained that in 1982 the MPS participated in more than 80 military operations with the support of army and border guard troops in the struggle against Somozist military units that make incursions into the area bordering on Honduras.

Most of the border towns, he said, have a self-defense system designed by army engineers, as well as intructors in all fields. This system, "which has yielded magnificent results," consists of a general defense staff in those townships in coordination with army units located in the vicinity, the minister reported.

"Each day we learn to fight better. Each day we are dealing fiercer blows. Now we have fewer casualties than in the past," Ortega stated. He indicated that unlike the Somozist guards, the EPS is distinguished "by its defensive nature and by not oppressing the citizens."

He added that the massive growth of the militia in previous years prevented the combative quality of the masses from being at its best, for which reason the military high command decided to make a considerable increase in the number of instructors to improve its quality in 1983.

Militia Anniversary Speech

PA272018 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1324 GMT 27 Feb 83

[Speech by Defense Minister Humberto Ortega Saavedra at an event held at the Almengor Martinez Plaza in Masaya, Nicaragua, to mark the third anniversary of the Sandinist People's Militia -- live]

[Text] Companero members of our Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, companeros all, brother militiamen:

Ever since its founding on 26 February 1980, the Sandinist People's Militia [MPS], due to its high revolutionary spirit, has had important accomplishments and advances. In these years, much experience has been gained, particularly during the last two periods of instruction, in which it has been possible to consolidate, from the organizational, political and military viewpoints, thousands of small militia units, spread over the entire nation.

This development of the militia must be continuous and increasing, in line with the defense demands of our revolution. Therefore, for the first period of instruction this year, we must work with revolutionary eagerness and fervor in the following directions:

Combat Training: In order for the MPS combat training to be more dynamic and realistic in 1983, it should be carried out on the basis of two programs, one for the cities and the other for the countryside. It is necessary to continue efforts and exercise creativity in the development of the basic study material, as well as on the tactical and firing ranges.

In this first period of instruction, the MPS must (?develop) a fair number of instructors, selected from among the most outstanding militiamen in the units, in both the cities and the countryside. The militiamen must consolidate their military knowledge at the level of the soldier, squads and platoons, as well as acquire a basic familiarity with company-level activities.

In this period of instruction, the militia must strive to complete small arms shooting practice, blank cartridges and real cartridges. Militiamen in the rural areas should improve their training in the defense of the province and of production units.

Combat Readiness: The combat readiness of our militia units is based on their inexhaustible combat and political morale and on the militamen's willingness to carry out combat missions at any place and time. The militamen should, in this new period, increase their participation in the defense of political and economic targets that the revolution considers to be strategic, and substantially increase their support for civil defense tasks, participating in the tasks of evacuation, sanitation, health brigades, etc.

The militias should definitely maintain a high level of combat readiness in order to carry out missions in conjunction with the anti-Somozist units and the border guards, thereby contributing to the defense of the gains made by the Sandinist people's revolution. [applause] [Crowd shouts: "In the mountains and the cities, we militiamen will defend the gains of our people!"]

The militiamen just continue to promote the tasks of complementing the various units of the Sandinist People's Army. All militia units should become thoroughly familiar with the missions that are carried out in times of peace and war, and should perfect alert plans at all levels in order to prepare speedily to carry out assigned missions.

Militia units should direct their efforts toward improvement and creation of new military commands that contribute toward increasing the MPS' combat readiness. Of particular importance is the effort that the MPS should make to consolidate the armed self-defense units of the border towns. Defending the homes, children, elderly people and property of the state, and assuring that the people can work in peace is the main mission of the militiamen in border areas and towns.

In this period, there should be consolidation and proliferation of the committees for the promotion of the militia in order to continue to guarantee a large-scale incorporation of our people into the MPS.

The coordination of the MPS with the structures of the FSLN and with mass organizations will continue and be given priority in this period. Through coordination with the various organizations during this period of instruction, it is necessary to continue increasing the levels of attendance at combat training courses at instruction centers in the cities and countryside.

In closing, we wish to inform you that the Army general command has decided to appoint Francisco Ramirez, guerrilla commander and commander of the army, a longstanding Sandinist militant and fighter, as inspector general of the MPS. By this action, we will guarantee a greater control and development of our work. [applause]

The FSLN National Directorate, our revolutionary government and the EPS general command reaffirm with profound revolutionary conviction that nothing and no one will subdue the people of Sandino, who with the arms of liberty are firmly defending their fatherland and their revolution.

Long live the heroic popular insurrection of Monimboi [crowd shouts: Viva!] Long live our MPS: [crowd shouts: viva!] Free Fatherland: [crowd shouts: or death]

DANIEL ORTEGA SPEAKS AT MILITIA ANNIVERSARY

PA271854 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1355 GMT 27 Feb 83

[Speech by Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, at an event held at the Almengor Martinez Plaza in Masaya, Nicaragua, to mark the third anniversary of the Sandinist People's Militia -- live]

[Excerpts] Today we wish to recall some Sandinist fighters who, in the difficult moments of the struggle, led the work of the FSLN here in Masaya. Today we remember Juan Carlos Merrera, Ulises Tapia, Norma Lopez, and (Silvio Renasco). We also remember fighters of this heroic Monimbo neighborhood like (Max Somarriba), Francisco Castellon Peinado and Bayardo Lopez. We also recall the cooperation here in Masaya of peasants, of small farmers from (Los Focos) neighborhood like Julio Rodriguez, who made a total commitment to the FSLN. We also recall the cooperation of people like Juanita Garcia de Perez, an old lady from San Geronimo neighborhood, who was an FSLN courier.

In those days, the FSLN squads were active in Nagarote, La Trinidad, Esteli and Managua, while the women, organized in Ampronac [Asociation of Women Concerned with National Problems] participated actively in popular protest and were also being repressed by the Somozist guardsmen.

Thus we came to 21 February of that year [1978], and the people of Masaya, the people of Monimbo, wanted to celebrate the anniversary of the death of Sandino. The guard wanted to prevent the commemoration, but the people decided to commemorate Sandino with the fighting spirit that had characterized all the activities of January and those first days of February.

Confrontations with the National Guard began, and on 22 February Francisco Lopez Diaz was wounded. And he died on the 25th. There was a funeral here in Masaya in which all the people participated (passage omitted)

It was necessary to wage 17 more months of uninterrupted fighting, of war without quarter, before we could achieve total victory against Somozism and the imperialism that supported Somoza. Some 17 months had to pass after those heroic events of January and February before Somoza -- who said: I am not leaving, and they will not oust me -- left at last, fleeing from the moving strength of Sandino's people. [applause]

Today the heroic people of Nicaragua, of Diriamba, of Masaya, Matagalpa, Leon, Granada, Rivas, Managua and Chinandega, are also participating combatively in the reconstruction and the defense of the country. They are participating with enthusiasm in productive tasks. They are participating with optimism in the Sandinist People's Militia. They are participating happily in revolutionary vigilance. They are participating in the health campaigns, in studies, in the reserve battalions. In short, they are participating with the enthusiasm and the heroism of the spirit of February 1978. [applause]

Today, the national day of the Sandinist People's Militia, 3 years after it was founded, delegations from different departments are present here. Some companeros have come to Masaya after walking a long way. However, what is the purpose of the militias in this revolutionary Nicaragua? Are you perhaps militamen to defend exploitation? [crowd shouts: No!] Are you perhaps carrying those rifles to repress the poor, hardworking people? [crowd shouts: No!]

The militias, as Sandino said, are the armed people. The militias are to defend Nicaragua from the Yankee aggressors and from their dogs, the Somozists, and from their new sheepdogs, who have joined the Somozist guardsmen to lick the Yankees' boots.

We are certain, companeros, we are certain that those who are directing politics in the United States at this time are not afraid of Nicaragua because it has many rifles, or because it might have many tanks, or because it might have combat airplanes. They do not fear it for that reason. They fear it because it has a people who are prepared to struggle, prepared to fight, prepared to win, prepared to die. [applause, shouting of : They will not pass!]

Here are the militias of the heroes of 1978, born since then in daily struggle. The Sandinist People's Militia, with its always invincible spirit, with the muscle of workers and peasants, with the fire of the workers, is the indisputable expression of the people's power. Always for the homeland, today you are a formidable barricade for the new Nicaragua, joining your spirits in the heroic cry of free fatherland or death, with the certainty that the enemies of the people will not pass! [applause]

DEFENSE MINISTRY REPORTS CLASHES, CASUALTIES

PA250435 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 24 Feb 83

[Text] The Nicaraguan Defense Ministry today reported that several clashes with Somozist counterrevolutionary bands occurred 17-20 February, and that the aggressors suffered 18 casualties, including dead, wounded and prisoners.

The Sandinist Peoples Army's side suffered the loss of four heroic soldiers. The clashes took place in the area of Wamblan, Jinotega Department. The invaders left behind many heavy weapons and nearly 20,000 rounds for AK and FAL rifles.

HAVANA ON ORTEGA'S EXPECTATIONS OF POPE'S VISIT

PA272236 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Pope John Paul II's visit to Central America could strengthen the international demand for peace if he speaks in favor of resolving the region's conflicts politically, said Commander Daniel Ortega, Coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, during an interview in Managua with Colombian Radio and Television Network CARACOL journalists.

The Sandinist leader stressed that the main problem in Central America is the Salvadoran conflict, and recalled that Latin American and European heads of state have favored a negotiated solution for the problem. He added that efforts by Pope John Paul II along these lines could help in finding an answer to the problems creating tension in the region.

Daniel Ortega said the region's situation is extremely critical, and that the United States is becoming increasingly interventionist, especially in El Salvador.

He said that among other topics to be discussed with the head of the Catholic Church, the Nicaraguan Government will provide him with a broader report on the continuous attacks against the Sandinist revolution from Honduran territory. Another aspect to be covered in these sessions is the fact that the U.S. Government arms former Somozist guards in Honduras and involves the Honduran Army and Government in actions against the Nicaraguan people.

BARRICADA: U.S. CONGRESS HAS 'LEGALIZED' WAR

PA270253 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 19 Feb 83 P 3

[Editorial "Masters of Cynicism"]

[Text] On 9 December the U.S. Congress was engaged in a debate -- apparently on semantics -- regarding the CIA covert operations against Nicaragua.

On the one hand, Congressman Harkin demanded a ban on using U.S. funds for any covert or destabilizing action against Nicaragua. On the other, Republican Congressman Boland presented an amendment under which the ban would cover only those actions aimed at "overthrowing the Nicaraguan Government."

The latter was finally unanimously approved. Although the fact that the debate about the "dirty war" has now moved from the newspapers to the U.S. Congress is in itself a victory, the resolution left the CIA free to do as it wishes. All the CIA director has to do is swear before Congress that all the terrorist acts, sabotage and actions by the Somozists are not aimed at "overthrowing the Nicaraguan Government." This would automatically legalize the crimes and attacks without harming U.S. democracy.

At this moment, the war stopped being "dirty" and "secret." It has now become an official, declared and even legal war.

Shielded by that legality, CIA Director William Casey last week again asked Congress to assign a budget allotment to finance the war against Nicaragua until at least 1984. As Casey has only to say the magic word to open any door, he convinced Congressmen that the CIA actions are not aimed at overthrowing the Sandinist government, but merely to "provide advice and financial aid to counterrevolutionary forces in Honduras to launch attacks against Nicaragua."

It just so happened that while the Sacasa coordinating committee said in a document that its "presidential tour" was aimed at committing at least five Latin American governments to serve as "witnesses" of the domestic dialogue between them and the revolutionary government, Casey told Congress that the CIA's aim is "to exert pressure on the Sandinist government to negotiate with the domestic opposition."

Don't you agree that the Reagan administration has already earned a prominent place in the annals of the history of cynicism?

In view of all this, we are worried that the U.S. Congress continues to endorse a war that might become full-scale conflict in Central America. If they believe that we are going to stand by with our arms folded and accept this new type of "medium-scale terrorism," they are sorely mistaken.

Our people must be aware of this: The war is taking on greater dimensions and we are going to defend the people's power regardless of the cost. Let us hope that those so-called "internal opposition" groups who are flirting and seeking destabilization understand this. If imperialism increases the pressure, the revolution will increase it even more.

TIRADO LOPEZ ON ROLE OF MARXISM IN FSLN STRATEGY

PA270308 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Victor Tirado inaugurated a Marxist economy course at the Nicaraguan Public Administration Institute, INAP, in homage to the 100th anniversary of the death of Karl Marx, founder of scientific socialism. At the ceremony, Tirado said that our history and the Somozist dictatorship line made us believe that armed struggle was the center of an unquestionable way of struggle recommended by Marxism.

Commander Tirado, who is also coordinator of the committee for activities to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Marx's death, added that in the process of creating the FSLN our brilliant leader Carlos Fonseca taught us to examine the country's economic structure and to learn about the people's ideosyncracies, psychology and feelings in order to arrive at solutions based on real facts, which is applying Marxism to our reality. This is why the FSLN outlined a government plan and prepared itself for a predominant role in government, he said. Not only is it necessary to know how to achieve power, but also to know what will be done afterwards; this, too, is applying Marxism to Nicaragua's reality, he added.

Here is part of Commaner Tirado Lopez' INAP speech: [Begin recording] (?Inspired) by Marx, the FSLN outlined its strategy and program tactics. The first thing that this eminent thinker took into consideration was the idea that in order to work out a revolutionary plan, it is necessary to start from the roots, from our most advanced and [word indistinct] traditions. This is what Lenin, Fidel Castro and all the revolutionary men of our time, as Carlos Fonseca, have done. One of Fonseca's greatest merits was that he managed to consolidate the country's revolutionary ideas [words indistinct]. Because, in order to perfect a revolutionary strategy, it was first necessary to determine what had become of our country, its conditions at the time and its future possibilities. Fonseca discovered our country's situation at the time and what could be done in the future. He studied Nicaragua's reality and first decided where to center the efforts aimed at overthrowing the tyranny, getting rid of Yankee imperialism's domain over our country and establishing a new government. As we all know, the efforts centered on the armed struggle, as this was the conclusion of the Marxist analysis: To center on the struggle of Sandino's teachings, which Fonseca picked up and consolidated with [words indistinct]. [end recording]

FINNISH PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION ENDS VISIT

PA262021 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 21 Feb 83 pp 1, 8

[Capitalized passages published in uppercase]

[Text] The top-level delegation of Finnish legislators that spent several days in our country at the invitation of the State Council left yesterday after expressing its wish that the revolution be deepened for the benefit of the majority of the people.

The delegation held a news conference at the protocol room of Augusto Cesar Sandino International airport. (Terho M. Pursiainen), who headed the delegation, said that its members were totally convinced that the FSLN National Directorate and the revolutionary government are trying to strengthen political pluralism in Nicaragua and are not interested in becoming a regional superpower. He said they are convinced that the leadership of the Sandinist people's revolution wants to be allowed to work in peace for the social progress of its people.

(Pursiainen) is a deputy of the Finnish People's Democratic League and vice president of the International Parliamentary Union. He said that after holding a dialogue, all members of the parliamentary delegation, which is composed of representatives of all Finnish political parties, agreed that the most impressive things they found in Nicaragua were the deepening of the revolution and the propsects of development it has opened for the people.

He also noted that it is quite clear that the main threat to the Nicaraguan revolution-army process comes from abroad, but that this threat can be considerably lessened by pressure from international public opinion. He added that Finland's political forces have a place in this struggle.

LEEWAY

The European legislator remarked that they viewed the fact that they had been left free to meet with opposition groups as a sign of the government's stability. We thought this was very healthy, (Terho) said.

He recalled the differences in political traditions between Europe and the Central American region, and said that they could not give any advice for this reason, but that they could indeed say that they would like the majority of the people to be always involved in the dynamics of the revolution.

Regarding Finland's technical cooperation, the president of the delegation said that they had been very pleased to note that the revolutionary government had been using it properly. He explained that one of the principles of the Finnish Government in regard to this aid is that it be supplied to organizations and governments that funnel it to the neediest social strata.

ASSISTANCE TO CONTINUE

He said that the delegation was able to see that the assistance Finland is giving to Nicaragua is really reaching the people, and that for this reason they will tell their parliament that the assistance must continue.

With respect to the situation in Central America, he said that they had corroborated what they already knew, i.e., that no solution can be achieved in the area unless a negotiated solution is reached in El Salvador. "We feel that it is our duty to continue this assessment," he said in conclusion.

MIRET ASKS COUNTRYMEN TO MAKE GREATER EFFORTS

FL250237 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Speech by Cuba's Communist Party Politburo member Pedro Miret Prieto at a ceremony held at Havana's Granma memorial to mark the beginning of all activities commemorating the 30th anniversity of the revolution's triumph -- live]

[Excerpts] Coinciding with the glorious anniversary of the Baire call to arms, the activities commemorating the 30th anniversary of the assault on the Moncada barracks and the 25th anniversary of the revolution's triumph begin today throughout the republic. It is not by chance that our party has chosen 24 February at the starting point for this campaign, which will end on 1 January 1984 and whose main purpose is to contribute to the entire nation's mobilization to insure the fulfillment of the country's economic, social and political objectives, as directed by the sixth plenum of the party's Central Committee.

That is why by starting on a day like today and continuing until 1 January 1984 our people commemmorate the 30th anniversary of the assault on the Moncada barracks and the 25th anniversary of the revolution's triumph in a way to express high symbolism and patriotic significance which calls for commitment and action. It is no secret that 1983 is a decisive year for the revolution. It is a year which demands from all cadres, workers, peasants and other workers, from all factories, schools, cooperatives, enterprises, agencies and ministries, from all our people, the maximum effort in the economic field, in savings, in austerity and in efficiency to try to preserve the current levels of activity and labor development which we have attained.

This is the only possible revolutionary response to the intensification of the criminal yankee economic blockade against Cuba, to the impact of the world capitalist economic crisis, to the low sugar prices prevailing in the international market, to the high interest rates and to the abrupt decrease in short-term loans and deposits which have sensibly affected our possibilities in freely convertible currency and, consistently, our economy.

Yesterday in the hills, in 1953 at the Moncada and, today, the fatherland calls on all revolutionaries, the people -- as the Central Committee stated in its sixth plenum -- to strengthen the economy, to achieve the fulfillment of production and service plans with efficiency and the maximum possible savings of fuel, electricity, oils, all types of materials and raw materials, especially those coming from the capitalist area. [The fatherland calls on all] to increase the recovery of raw materials, to fulfill scheduled tasks with the minimum possible of imported goods and, above all, to contribute to the country, drop by drop and gallon by gallon the hundreds of thousands of tons of fuel which is indispensable to save.

During the meeting held to adopt the program of economic and social measures, Fidel said: We are here to commit ourselves to the maximum. Many times great efforts have been made, but this time it is a case of each of us making the maximum effort, that the concern over and attention to all these problems be greater than ever before.

The fulfillment of the measures adopted by the party and revolutionary state would be an every minute objective, of each workday at work centers. It cannot cease to be present in the mind, in the heart and in the action of each political administration leader, of each worker, of each combatant, of each citizen. It is a matter of honor. It is a case of a revolutionary duty.

In the midst of a difficult and complex international panorama, full of dangers due to the irresponsible and aggressive policy of U.S. imperialism, the Cuban people, with the calmness that has characterized them during all the years of revolutionary work, will give a new demonstration of their capability and patriotic enthusiasm, of their unyielding decision to strengthen the country and the revolution, and all together will struggle against the economic difficulties and will strengthen the country's defense.

Each man and woman, old person or child, each worker, each peasant, each professional or technician, each worker, with the weapons of efficiency, savings and austerity, will face the new challenge with the certainty that the decision of a nation is invincible. It will be similar to a Baire and a Moncada of the economy every day. And, at the same time, it will be the best tribute to those who shed their blood so that today's Cubans could have at their disposal the right to be whole men and women, owners and guides of their own destiny.

Long live free Cuba! [applause]

VICE FOREIGN MINISTER VIERA LINARES INTERVIEW

Part One

PA242135 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Feb 83

[First part of interview with Jose Raul Viera Linares, Cuban first vice foreign minister, at the Cuban Foreign Ministry in Havana by Pedro Martinez Perez; date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] The Seventh nonaligned summit will open in New Delhi in the next few days. On this occasion, we have come to the Cuban Foreign Ministry to talk with First Vice Foreign Minister Jose Raul Viera Linares.

Viera, first I would like to know your opinion about the significance of the seventh summit, given the current situation.

[Answer] The seventh summit will be taking place at a time when the international situation is very tense and when the international economic crisis is having a severe impact on the developing countries. The meeting gains importance from the fact that with the presence of a large number of heads of state and government the movement will be able to give the member countries' response to the serious international situation.

[Question] Viera, you were in New Delhi for the ministers conference and you have systematically followed the development of the Nonaligned Movement. What do you think of India's preparation for the summit?

[Answer] The Indian Government has done a great job in the short time available to prepare for the seventh summit. It has created the necessary conditions to allow the participating delegations to work properly. The Indians have prepared a draft declaration that represents an adequate working basis for the conference's development and they have taken the necessary measures for the conference's success. I believe that all nonaligned countries should be grateful to the Indian Government and people.

[Question] In your opinion, what are the most important political subjects to be discussed by the heads of state and government in New Delhi?

[Answer] The world is currently facing a situation in which the U.S. Government is trying to impose its economic and political will on the rest of the world. We all know the U.S. Administration's plan to install 572 middle-range MX missiles in West Europe, thus breaking the parity maintained with the socialist camp.

We also know about the U.S. strategic alliance with Israel, the U.S. Government's special considerations toward the South African Government -- a situation that allows the latter government to attack the front line countries -- and about the U.S. intention to intervene in Central America.

I believe the summit's main subject will be the complex problems resulting from the imperialist desire to maintain international domination. This means that peace and a halt to the arms race will be the main topics of the summit meeting.

[Question] The nonaligned countries are facing the international economic crisis caused by imperialism. Do you think that the economic aspect will be given special attention at the New Delhi meeting?

[Answer] I think that this subject will be more important than in previous years. I think that the heads of state will make considerable efforts to evaluate the international economic situation and to find ways for the developing countries to resolve their difficult economic situations. Companero Martinez, we all know the contributions of Fidel Castro, our commander in chief, to the struggle for a new international economic order. During his presidency, Companero Fidel has been especially concerned about the economic problems of the developing countries. I think that with his work, Companero Fidel has contributed to the summit's position of giving priority attention to economic problems.

[Question] Viera, in its role as organizer of the 7th summit, the Coordinating Bureau has recommended that Colombia, the Bahamas and Barbados become full members of the Nonaligned Movement, and that the Dominican Republic attend as a guest. I would like to know your opinion about growing Latin American and Caribbean participation in the Nonaligned Movement.

[Answer] Being nonaligned in Latin America has a special political connotation. For example, Cuba was the only Latin American country that was present, as a full-fledged member, at the furst summit in Belgrade in 1961. In my opinion, this means that to be nonaligned in Latin America, countries must have the will to have an independent political line. Being nonaligned in Latin America necessarily means moving away from U.S. tutelage.

In this continent it is easier for some countries than for others to be nonaligned. Countries that have recently gained their independence and have no military ties with the United States find it relatively easier and their membership has a lower degree of political connotation.

However, for countries that gained their independence earlier, joining the Nonaligned Movement represents an important policymaking position that we must value positively. It is positive that there is a growing tendency of Latin American interest in the Nonaligned Movement, in joining this movement and in seeking solidarity from the countries of Asia and Africa and in offering Latin American solidarity in return.

[Question] At the recent Coordinating Bureau meeting in New York, Cuba and other nations opposed granting observer status to the Honduran regime in the Nonaligned Movement. Why?

[Answer] Fifteen countries -- not only from this continent, but from all the continents -- stated there that Honduras is currently an imperialist base for adventures against Nicaragua and El Salvador. In having become such a base, Honduras has adopted a policy of complete opposition to the aspirations of the Nonaligned Movement and its political platform approved at the sixth Havana summit meeting. It is impossible for the Honduran Government to be admitted to the movement, and the rejection of its aspiration in New York representas the first defeat of U.S. imperialism in its efforts to manipulate and exert influence on the seventh summit meeting.

Part Two

PA242343 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Feb 83

["Last part" of interview with Jose Raul Viera Linares, Cuban first vice foreign minister, at the Cuban Foreign Ministry in Havana by Pedro Martinez Pirez; date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Viera, which Latin American issues do you think will have the greatest impact at the seventh nonaligned summit in India?

[Answer] The special Coordinating Bureau ministerial meeting was held recently with great success in Managua. It was fully and exclusively devoted to Latin America's problems and it made an exhaustive analysis of the continent's economic and political situation. I think that the Managua conference communique will exert a great influence on the seventh summit's final declaration.

Key issues that will be broached include peace in the region; the problem of nonintervention and of getting imperialism's hands out of El Salvador; guaranteeing Nicaragua's security and independence so the Nicaraguan people may reconstruct their country, which is plagued by Somozist bands, in peace; and stopping imperialism's interventions and attacks on this continent.

[Question] Will other issues like those of the Malvinas Islands, colonialism in Puerto Rico, the Guantanamo Naval Base, Panama's situation and so forth be raised, Viera?

[Answer] Yes, of course. The movement has expressed its solidarity in each of these cases. Regarding Puerto Rico, the movement's second summit expressed solidarity with Puerto Rico's right to independence and the demand that the United States not act to prolong colonialism in that fraternal Latin American country. The movement has also dealt with the matter of Panama. Most certainly, the movement will demand that the United States comply with its agreements with Panama regarding the canal.

Regarding the Malvinas, before, during and after the war the movement expressed its solidarity with Argentina's struggle to recover sovereignty over that part of Latin American territory. The movement will also express solidarity with Grenada in view of its present situation, and with Suriname. In a nutshell, all problems in the hemisphere will be discussed.

[Question] Cuba's mandate as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, which began in 1979 with the sixth summit, will end in New Delhi with the seventh summit. I would like a brief assessment from you of the work done by Cuba, and especially by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, as the head of the movement.

[Answer] Actually, it is not for us Cubans to assess or to pass judgement on our own chairmanship or on Companero Fidel Castro's chairmanship of the movement.

The June 1982 Coordinating Bureau meeting in Havana, which was the last one held under our chairmanship -- although later on we had the special meeting in Managua -- evaluated Cuba's chairmanship and highly praised the initiatives of the commander in chief, which allowed the movement to maintain its cohesion and enhance its prestige as evidenced by the fact that the number of countries that applied for membership in the movement grew during these last 3 years. In addition, and what is most important, the movement maintained its capacity for action throughout this period.

It should be noted that from the very beginning of Cuba's chairmanship, imperialism did everything possible to split, divide and even destroy the movement.

I think that this was not solely due to the fact that Cuba was chairman of the movement but to [words indistinct] the movement of nonaligned countries. Companero Fidel's deft chairmanship kept this from happening. The movement's trend toward unity has been very strong and it succeeded in maintaining unity and resolving each problem that came up during these last 3 1/2 years. I think that we can feel proud about the way in which we will turn over the movement during the seventh conference.

[Question] I would like your view about relations between Cuba and India. The seventh summit's host country.

[Answer] Relations between Cuba and India are not new. They reached their apex after the victory of the Cuban revolution, when Cuba was able to pursue an independent foreign policy. In recent years, these relations have been developing more and more satisfactorily and their outlook is bright. We not only have great agreement in our political assessment of world problems but the two countries have the possibility and capability of engaging in fruitful economic cooperation. I think that both countries are heading toward closer relations and the development of [word indistinct] cooperation.

NEW VERSION OF RADIO MARTI PACKAGE REPORTED

FL261450 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] The Ronald Reagan administration is attempting to gain congressional approval for a revised version of Reagan's project to establish a subversive radio station against Cuba called Radio Marti, thus named despite the well-known anti-imperialist attitude of Cuba's national hero.

The previous version was rejected by the Senate at the end of December due to opposition by liberal legislators and owners of U.S. radio stations. The latter feared the impact which the radio station's broadcasting on the medium wave frequency of 1040 khz would have on their own commercial stations.

Reagan is now proposing to Congress the use of a radio station belonging to the Voice of America for the so-called Radio Marti. That radio station now broadcasts 5 and 1/2 hours of propaganda against Cuba on 1180 khz, medium wave. This medium wave radio station is truly the only station which the Voice of America operates in that band in the entire world.

RAUL ROA CRITICIZES U.S. POLICY AGAINST LIBYA

PA251308 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Feb 83

[Text] Cuba has condemned the U.S. aggressive policy toward Libya and expressed its unswerving solidarity with the Libyan people and their inalienable right to decide their own destiny without foreign intervention or interference. In the UN Security Council session that is examining U.S. provocations of Libya, Cuban Ambassador Raul Roa Kouri warned that this grave situation and the repeated Israeli attacks on the Arab nations endanger international peace and security.

Raul Roa Kouri stressed that the intimidating U.S. accusations and the propaganda unleashed by U.S. media seek to disguise and justify the White House's aggressive policy toward the Libyan revolution. He added that Cuba is not surprised by this policy, because the United States has set itself up as a world gendarme in the name of some kind of alleged freedom. He asked Washington: what principle in the UN Charter authorizes it to impose an economic blockade on a Caribbean island and what principle of international law does it invoke to deploy its Navy to the Libyan coasts?

PARTY OFFICIAL IN PARIS FOR MEETING ON KOREA

FL231946 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Feb 83

[Text] Juan Jose Leon, alternate member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, has arrived in Paris to participate in a meeting of the International Liaison Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of Korea [Comite Internacional de Enlace Para la Reunificacion Pacifica de Corea]:

The meeting was convoked to warn the international public of the danger that lies in a military alliance among the United States, Japan and South Korea against the DPRK.

U.S. Blamed for Tensions

FL261350 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Cuba has blamed the United States for the intensification of tensions on the Korean Peninsula and reiterated its support and solidarity with the just demands of the DPRK. Cuba's stance was voiced by Juan Jose Leon, alternate member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and president of the Cuban Committee in support of the Reunification of Korea, in a speech delivered before a special meeting in Paris looking into the situation prevailing in that part of the Asian Continent.

The meeting, urgent in nature, was called by the International Liaison Committee for the Peaceful and Independent Reunification of Korea. The meeting is being attended by representatives of more than 30 countries and numerous international organizations.

HAVANA SAYS U.S. AIDS NAZI WAR CRIMINALS

PA271608 Havana International Service in Quechua 2200 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Text] Now we are going to explain how the United States helped, sponsored and gave asylum to German Hitlerites, to Nazi criminals.

Justice was done when war criminal Klaus Barbie was deported from Bolivia and taken to Fra[illegible] to face a court. There he will have to account for the murders of thousands of huma[illegible]beings, for the tortures and abuses inflicted on French patriots, for the thousands of patriots who were deported from France to unknown places, and for the confinement of other men and women in concentration camps.

It was Klaus Barbie who ordered these abuses during World War II. Barbie was the Nazi Gestapo chief in France. For many years he was able to evade [words indistinct] but finally justice is being done.

After the war Barbie was backed by some fascist Latin American governments, but especially by the United States, which protected and helped him so he would not be discovered.

U.S. papers have reported how the Justice Department, the FBI and the CIA supported and sponsored thousands of Nazi and fascist war criminals who were taken to the United States after the war so they would provide information on the socialist countries and so that they, the Nazis and the fascists, could train their benefactors in torture methods to force political prisoners to make confessions.

THE NEW YORK TIMES has reported that after World War II Barbie was made prisoner and taken to the United States, where he was recruited as a secret police agent, according to (Edgard Draweraus), a university professor who also worked as a U.S. secret police agent.

Barbie provided information about the Czechoslovak mining industry. He reportedly also took part in the cold war against the socialist countries, including the Soviet Union. As a result of these activities, Barbie received large amounts of money from the U.S. secret police.

Later, Barbie was sent to South America under the name of Klaus Altmann. While in Bolivia, this war criminal helped form the notorious paramilitary bands that killed many patriots. He was also greatly involved in cocaine trafficking. He also directed persecutions against revolutionary workers and leaders, and helped fascist governments carry out coups d'etat.

High U.S. Government officials who helped Barbie reportedly also helped other World War II Nazi-fascists, based on the information disclosed by publicist (Charles Allen), who has said there are some 3,000 Nazi-fascists in the United States who face serious charges for criminal acts.

Top U.S. Government officials have given them asylum and jobs, which include positions at the Department of State, the foreign relations secretariat [as heard], the CIA, the FBI and other government institutions. Not even one of these exiles has ever had to face trial, nor have they been sent to the countries where they are to be judged for their crimes.

One of the cruelest criminals, Joseph Mengele, who reportedly killed thousands of men and women in a Polish concentration camp, lives peacefully in the state of Florida, and nothing is being said or done to have him face justice, according to the Spanish EFE news agency.

This Nazi and fascist also lived in Paraguay under the protection of Stroessner, whose father was German.

The United States, which claims to be the defender of democracy and human rights, cannot justify its conduct regarding these war criminals, and countries are realizing that the United States is the most reactionary country and that imperialism is the greatest threat.

PEACE MOVEMENT ISSUES STATEMENT ON SURINAME

FL251950 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] On the occasion today, 25 February, of the third anniversary of the triumph of the revolutionary process in Suriname, the Cuban Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of Peoples has issued a statement reiterating its solidarity with the Caribbean nation and greeting the people on such a significant historic event.

The document stated that on 25 February 1980, a military movement made up of young officers took power in Suriname and formed the National Military Council. Since that time, it has been building a popular and democratic process guided by policies beneficial to the masses.

From the very beginning, the statement added, the Surinamese process came under constant threats, provocations and aggressions from imperialists and internal reactionaries, whose aim was to destroy the achievements of the revolution in the country.

Despite the mercenary invasion of 5 May and the abortive coup d'etat at the end of 1982, the Surinamese process forges ahead and maintains its foreign policy of anti-colonialism, anti-imperialism, nonalignment and in favor of peace and development for the peoples, the statement stressed.

CABRIZAS ARRIVES IN COLOMBIA FOR UNCTAD MEETING

FL251620 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Cuban foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrizas has arrived in Cartagena, Colombia leading a Cuban delegation slated to attend a coordination meeting for the sixth UN Conference on Trade and Development -- UNCTAD. President Belisario Betancur will open the meeting today. It is mostly being attended by Latin American and Carbibbean ministers.

The ministerial-level meeting was preceded by a meeting of experts who prepared a political declaration containing a thorough analysis of the world economy. The paper openly condemned developed capitalist nations over their stance in the area of trade and financing which hurts the interests of developing countries.

LEZCANO MEETS WITH SPAIN'S CORTES LEADERS

FL231939 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Feb 83

[Text] Jeorge Lezcano, vice president of the Cuba's National Assembly of the People's Government, has held several meetings with the vice presidents of the Spanish Senate and Congress of Deputies.

In transit from Algiers where he attended the Palestine National Council meeting, Lezcano met in Madrid with Senate Vice President (Arturo Lizon Jiner) and Congress Vice President (Jose Verde Aldea). The meetings were held in a friendly atmosphere. They discussed the experiences of the two legislative assemblies. This is the first contact between a high ranking delegation of the Cuban People's Government and the new Spanish legislature.

FERNANDEZ MELL RECEIVES LA CORUNA MAYOR

FL222350 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 22 Feb 83

[Text] During a round of talks held by Oscar Fernandez Mell, president of the Executive Committee of the Provincial Assembly of the People's Government in Havana, and Mr Joaquin Lopez Menendez, mayor of La Coruna, Spain, the two leaders exchanged keys to their respective cities and noted the ties of friendship and brotherhood existing between Galicia and Havana city.

Fernandez Mell, after welcoming the mayor of La Coruna and the delegation accompanying him, briefly explained historic facts about our capital. In his statements, he gave the visitors information on population growth and other data of interest.

REPORTAGE ON VISIT BY SEYCHELLES' HODOUL

'Important' Protocol Signed

PA220133 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 20 Feb 83

[Text] Cuba and the Seychelles have signed an important 2-year protocol for economic, scientific and technical cooperation to include a noticeable increase in the areas of health, agriculture, construction and cultural exchange. The document was signed by Jacques Hodoul, Seychelles development minister, and Hector Rodriguez Llompart, minister president of the Cuban State Committee for Economic Cooperation.

After the document has signed, Hodoul said that his country appreciates all the sacrifices that the Cubans are willing to make for the benefit of the Seychelles' economic development, and he praised the spirit of true friendship and solidarity that characterize our relations.

Malmierca Meets Hodoul

FL222331 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 22 Feb 83

[Text] Isidoro Malmierca, member of Cuba's Communist Party Central Committee and foreign minister, today held talks with Jacques Hodoul, minister of national development of the Republic of Seychelles, who heads his country's delegation to the third meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for Scientific and Technical Cooperation. The talks were held in a fraternal atmosphere befitting the warm relations existing between the two countries. Topics dealing with matters of bilateral interest as well as the international situation were discussed during the meeting. Participating in the talks were Roberto Valdes, Cuban ambassador to Seychelles, and Laureano Cardoso, chief of department in the Sub-Saharan Africa Directorate of the Foreign Ministry.

Hodoul Activities Reported

FL242031 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1907 GMT 24 Feb 83

[Text] Accompanied by Cuban Ambassador to Seychelles Roberto Valdes and other officials, Seychelles' Finance and Industry Minister [as heard] Jacques Hodoul has arrived in Camaguey Province.

The visitors toured places of economic and social interest in Camaguey City, Nuevitas and Jimaguayu. The minister of finance and industry of Seychelles also chatted with students from his country who are attending the faculty of languages of Camaguey University and who subsequently will attend various specialties being taught in that center of higher education.

FAR, SOVIETS OPEN MILITARY SCIENCES CONFERENCE

FL251515 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] The fifth military sciences conference of the FAR Ministry has opened its activities at the General Maximo Gomez FAR Academy. The scientific meeting is being attended by FAR generals, chiefs and officers and Soviet military specialists serving in Cuba. The participants in this event will discuss various aspects of the military field.

The opening remarks of the conference were delivered by Division General Ulises Rosales del Toro, member of the Central Committee, first vice minister of the FAR and chief of the General Staff. Div Gen Rosales del Toro, after urging participants to turn the meeting into a useful and opportune instrument to resolve important matters of concern to the FAR, declared open the conference and said that the conference would surely contribute toward improving our defensive capability.

AALAPSO SECRETARY GENERAL VISITS VIETNAM

FL241840 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 24 Feb 83

[Text] Hanoi -- AALAPSO Secretary General Melba Hernandez has arrived in the Vietnamese capital. She was later received by Hoang Truong, secretary of the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee. Melba is fulfilling an invitation extended by Vietnamese-Cuba Friendship Association.

GDR'S MUELLER LEADS DELEGATION TO HAVANA

FL251505 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] A GDR delegation headed by Margarete Mueller, candidate member of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany Politburo and member of the GDR Council of State, arrived in our country in the last few hours. The distinguished visitor was welcomed by Vilma Espin, alternate member of our party Politburo and secretary general of the Federation of Cuban Women.

DOMINICAN LEGISLATORS ARRIVE ON VISIT 25 FEB

FL251700 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] A delegation of deputies from the Dominican Republic headed by (Antonio Raful) arrived in Havana last night and was greeted by Faustino Perez, chief of the office for servicing local people's government operating under the Council of Ministers, at Jose Marti International Airport.

Shortly after his arrival, (Raful) said that he was pleased over this visit and pointed to the possibility of strengthening the ties between the Dominican and Cuban peoples.

Perez said that this meeting will benefit the two countries and their peoples and wished them a happy stay in Cuba.

The deputies, 12 in total, will meet with leaders of the National Assembly of the People's Government and will visit Santiago de Cuba and other places of interest. The delegation is made up of members of the Dominican Revolutionary Party, the Dominican Liberation Party and the Reformist Party.

Received by Flavio Bravo

FL261415 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Flavio Bravo, member of the Central Committee and president of the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP], has met with the delegation of Dominican deputies visiting Cuba at the invitation of the ANPP. The delegation is headed by (Antonio Raful), president of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Dominican Republic's Chamber of Deputies, who, along with his retinue, will tour various sites of interest in our country.

During their meeting, Flavio Bravo briefed the distinguished visitors on the basic functions of the ANPP and its local offices while (Antonio Raful), explained details of the legislative process in his country. The other deputies expressed interest in the nature of the institution in Cuba.

Yesterday, the Dominican delegation placed wreaths at the foot of the Marti mausoleum and at the Colon cemetery tomb of General Maximo Gomez, the illustrious Mambi patriot who was born in the Dominican Republic.

SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING OPENS

FL251430 Bridgetown CANA in English 1202 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Santo Domingo, Feb 25, CANA-REUTER -- Social democrats from 24 countries began a two-day meeting of the Socialist International yesterday with calls for the toppling of military dictatorships in Latin America.

The head of the organization's Latin America Committee, Jose Francisco Pena Gomez of the Dominican Republic, said such governments were on their last legs. "They need only one final push, which must be given by leaders who fight for democracy for the people, by the parties who make up the Socialist International," he said.

One of the aims of the meeting was to try to find new strategies to help those fighting military rule, especially in Argentina, Chile and Uruguay, he said.

Carlos Andres Perez, a former president of Venezuela, opened the meeting by criticising U.S. policies in Central America. He said the Reagan administration was wrong to base its policy on the fight against communism in the region. The Santo Domingo meeting, attended by delegates from the United States, Europe and Latin America, [will be] charting strategy before the Socialist International 's general congress in Australia from April 4.

Pena Gomez Address

FL251438 Santo Domingo Radio HIZ in Spanish 1000 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Excerpt] Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, president of the Socialist International for Latin America, has praised the country's democratic climate and the actions of the government headed by Jorge Blanco. Pena Gomez, who is the top leader of the Dominican Revolutionary Party, also praised the struggle of the Chilean people and that of the other peoples of Central America and the Caribbean who are fighting for their democratic liberation.

He delivered the opening speech at a meeting of the Socialist International which began a session in Santo Domingo yesterday described as very important by its organizers.

Pena Gomez Remarks to Press

FL251705 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Francisco Pena Gomez, leader of the Dominician Revolutionary Party, has expressed support for a dialogue to solve the serious situation being experienced by the Salvadoran people. Pena Gomez, chairman of the Socialist International's Latin American Committee, talked to the press shortly after delivering the opening speech in a meeting being held by this organization in Santo Domingo.
He said that no military solution can be immediately foreseen in El Salvador; therefore, any attempt to find a solution of this kind can only increase the grief and mourning of the Salvadoran people.

Meeting Ends

PA271531 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0053 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Santo Domingo, 25 Feb (EFE) -- The Latin American branch of the Socialist International ended its working meeting tonight preparatory to the Socialist International Congress to be held in April in Portugal.

Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, regional president of the organization, said that during the 2 days of the meeting they agreed on the proposals to be made by the Latin American countries to the International Congress. For his part, Carlos Andres Perez, former Venezuelan president and leader of the Democratic Action Party, explained that they had not planned to discuss again the positions outlined, but rather to unite their views.

Carlos Andres Perez responded in this manner when asked about the Socialist International position regarding the Central American situation, particularly in El Salvador and Nicaragua. He affirmed that the positions of the Latin American Socialists regarding the two nations are identical.

Hector Oqueli, secretary of the Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean of the Socialist International, told EFE that among the new topics discussed were the charges against the U.S. Embassy in Panama of interfering in Panama's armed institution. Oqueli noted, however, that they had not established positions but had heard a lengthy report presented by the Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD) of Panama.

On concluding its work, the Socialist International committee declared that it observed with "interest and satisfaction the initiatives of the Presidents of Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela that led to the foreign ministers meeting on Contadora Island, the results of which confirmed the validity of the Franco-Mexican delcaration of August 1981 and the peace proposal made by the Mexican president in February 1982."

These proposals are based on "the concerted desire to find negotiable political solutions to the tensions and existing conflicts in the Central American and Caribbean region, with the participation of all the parties involved, without exception, and outside of the East-West confrontation."

The Socialist International thought that the initiative of the foreign ministers who met on Contadora Island "tends to give substance to a Latin American unity with the incorporation of all countries of the subcontinent that share the same principles and objectives, an alternative that the Socialist International committee believes must be given attention to contribute to its development and to achieve its objectives."

FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR NONALIGNED MEETING

PA271634 Paris AFP in Spanish 1947 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Santa Domingo, 26 FEb (AFP) -- Dominican Foreign Minister Jose Augusto Vega Imbert left today for New Delhi to attend the seventh summit of chiefs of state of the Nonaligned Movement. This will be the first time that a Dominican delegation has participated in an officical meeting of the Nonaligned Movement.

The country was formally invited to participate at the New Delhi meeting last 15 February by the Nonaligned Coordination Bureau. The minister is accompanied on the trip by Rafael Angeles Suarez, minister of agriculture, and Alfredo Ricart Pellerano, Dominican Ambassador to London and president of the International Sugar Council, the official information added.

BOUTERSE ADDRESSES REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY RALLY

FL252245 Bridgetown CANA in English 2237 GMT 25 Feb 83

[By Reudon Eversley]

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, Feb 25, CANA -- Suriname's military chief, Lieutenant-Colonel Daysi Bouterse, today announced the expected appointment of sociologist Errol Alibux as the country's new prime minister and named police union Chairman Wilfred Maynard as the new minister responsible for the Army and police.

But the Army strongman cooly resisted the pleas of a large gathering of leaders of mass organisations, including women, farmers and youth groups, to name the other members of the new civilian government to replace the one which stepped down amid political unrest here last December.

He told a big indoor rally to mark the third anniversary of the Suriname revolution that the announcement would come next Monday as planned.

In a forceful two-hour speech punctuated frequently with loud applause, Bouterse said the immediate priorities of the new administration were the strengthening of national security, the further development of Suriname's new democracy, and encouraging increased national production.

"This government is a government for the working class. Its composition was deliberate and its members are patriots willing to fight for their country," the 37-year-old leader declared.

It was a rainy public holiday in this South American republic, where three years ago Bouterse led a sergeants' uprising that that ousted the Henck Aaron government.

Bouterse, dressed in full combat uniform, stressed the need for Surinamers to become more self-reliant, especially in view of the recent decision by mother country Holland to suspend badly-needed development aid to its former colony.

The Dutch Government's decision followed the December 8-9 political disturbances in which 15 men, detained in connection with an alleged coup plot, were killed by security forces during what the authorities said was a bid to escape.

The Hague said the men -- all opponents of the government -- were executed, but the military authorities here have strenuously denied the allegation, describing it as a fairy tale.

In his speech, Bouterse said Suriname was rightly entitled to the aid under a treaty signed between the two countries in 1975, but he added that his government would not kneel before the Dutch to receive it.

He said: "We have to understand that development aid is a modern instrument for exploitation. The purpose of this aid was never to improve the living standards of Surinamers. No country is a philantrophist.

"We are entitled to that aid, but we will not tow the line to receive it."

Bouterse said the Army was proud of what the revolution had achieved in the last three years, despite the fact there were at least six abortive coup plots and destabilisation efforts from both inside and outside Suriname which prevented the process from realising its true potential.

"We can be proud of what we have accomplished," he said. "We enter the fourth year of our revolution with pride, courage and confidence," the Suriname leader told his cheering audience.

He said great strides had been made since the revolution in the areas of housing and social services as well as in the development of the country's infrastructure.

Bouterse added that even now he was aware of plans by opponents to stage a mercenary invasion here to overthrow the military regime. He said 1.5 million dollars (U.S.) had already been paid to finance the scheme.

He cautioned: "My advice to the mercenaries is to take the 1.5 million dollars and enjoy it because you may enter Suriname but you will not leave it, (alive). Let them come, we are waiting for them."

Officials here told CANA today that the Dutch News Agency (ANP), in a dispatch from Miami last month, had reported that a veteran of Vietnam war had been recruited by persons with "big interests" in Suriname to spearhead the mercenary invasion.

The officials said meetings in connection with the venture were held on December 19 and January 2 at two Miami hotels. They said the total cost of the operation was put at between 10 and 12 million dollars.

Bouterse said the basic objectives of the February 25 revolution was to liberate Suriname from "imperialism" and foreign domination and to create a society where there was no discrimination and where the country's wealth was evenly distributed among its citizens.

He added that he was looking forward to next year's celebrations for which he said special invitations would be sent to "all the brothers" in the Caribbean who are backing them in their struggle.

This afternoon, armed detachements of the police and Army staged a colourful march through the streets of Paramaribo to the accompaniment of military music. The Boy Scouts and other groups also took part.

The celebrations end tonight when Commander Bouterse will host a two-hour "people's reception" at the Presidential Palace in Paramaribo, just yards from Seelandia, the headquarters of the Army.

'Antimercenary Committees' Announced

PM261201 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 16 Feb 83 p 5

[ANP report: "Bouterse Intends To Prevent Invasion Using Antimercenary Committees"]

[Text] Paramaribo/The Hague, 16 Feb -- Surinamese Army leader Daysi Bouterse has announced a large-scale campaign to frustrate plans to topple his government using mercenaries. Antimercenary committees will be set up throughout the country.

On Monday evening [14 February] Bouterse said in a short address on Surinamese Television that the campaign would begin the following day.

"Only through massive campaigns throughout our country involving the whole of our people will we be able to keep mercenaries from their plans to invade our country," Bouterse said. "Only organized and firm unity on the part of the people collected in hundreds and hundreds of antimercenary committees at workplaces, in offices, in ministries, in residential neighborhoods, in rural districts and in the heart of the interior can inspire fear in the mercenaries -- the fear of drowning here in the organized masses."

The Surinamese Army leader did not make it clear yesterday how the regime intends to organize the Surinamers in antimercenary committees. Bouterse announced a major campaign involving pamphlets, banners and radio and television programs. Further announcements are expected soon.

In his television speech Bouterse renewed his sharp attacks on the Netherlands, "which has let its mask fall and shown its rapacious claws." According to Bouterse former minister Haakmat and former President Chin a Sen are "traitors."

Meanwhile Chin a Sen has made an appeal to the UN Human Rights Commission meeting in Geneva for "suitable and effective action" to create the basic conditions for the restoration of human rights in Suriname.

On Sunday two members of the Council for the Liberation of Suriname, of which Chin a Sen is chairman, left for Geneva where they will bring the 8 December executions to the attention of the delegates at the commission.

JURISTS COMMISSION PROBES DECEMBER DEATHS

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[Text] The International Jurists Commission in Geneva has sent a two-person delegation to Suriname to investigate the operation of that country's legal system after the events of last 8 December, when 15 prominent Surinamese citizens, including some lawyers, were executed.

One of the commission's members was in Suriname 2 years ago to investigate the same thing. The report presented on that occasion described the situation of prosecuted people as insecure.

The military leader of Suriname, Lt Col Daysi Bouterse, has revealed that he will install the new government on Monday. Bouterse made this statement after meeting with the resigning cabinet of Prime Minister Naarendorp. The names of the new ministers will probably be released on Friday, when the country will commemorate the third anniversary of the military coup in Suriname.